THE Valley INDEPENDENT
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, RELEVANT, RELIABLE WWW.VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM 50¢

Assault case waived

An 18-year-old man charged with stabbing his father during a domestic dispute waived his right to a preliminary hearing Thursday. **3A**

BVA wins OT thriller

Belle Vernon Area posted one of its most dramatic come-from-behind overtime wins in the Leps' five years under coach John Dudzinski. **1B**

INSIDE TODAY

SF zoo reopens

The San Francisco Zoo opened today for the first time since a tiger escaped from its grotto on Christmas Day, killing one person and injuring two others. **5A**

Armenti gets hike

The longest-serving university president in the State System, California University of Pennsylvania President Dr. Angelo Armenti Jr. ranks third among his peers in the state as far as salary is concerned, earning $209,429 for the current academic year. **3A**

SPORTS

Faneca's farewell?

After a decade with the same team, every game now could be Alan Faneca's last with the Steelers, beginning with their AFC wild-card playoff game against Jacksonville on Saturday night. **1B**

DEATHS

- Ralph Buffa, 81, of Rostraver Township, formerly of Monessen
- Margaret A. Campbell Farmer, 84, of Belle Vernon (Rostraver Township)
- John J. Newmeyer, 81, of Greensburg, formerly of Charleroi

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WEATHER

Tonight Cloudy 22°
Saturday Partly sunny 45°

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Two sections, 16 Pages

TOMORROW

Valley Food

Hungry? Check out Valley Food, which appears each Saturday in *The Valley Independent.*

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Huckabee, Obama, face new tests

Fresh off their wins in Iowa, both presidential hopefuls headed to New Hampshire today for Tuesday's primary.

By JIM KUHNHENN
Associated Press Writer

CONCORD, N.H. — New Hampshire is where Iowa's Democratic caucus victors get ratified and where its Republican winners get stung.

Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mike Huckabee headed into the Granite State on today as Iowa's presidential champions, one hoping to ride history's trend and the other eager to break it.

Neither can expect it to be easy.

Obama is neck and neck in New Hampshire polls with Hillary Rodham Clinton, who finished third in Iowa but has the resources to confront him head on.

Will Obama, like Al Gore in 2000 and John Kerry in 2004, use his Iowa victory to catapult himself to victory in New Hampshire?

Huckabee

Or will Clinton manufacture a turnaround like her husband did in 1992 and be the new Comeback Kid?

Huckabee faces even bigger questions. He has hardly campaigned in New Hampshire where a Republican contest is already in a dead heat between Mitt Romney and John McCain. He enters the state with little money and little time to mount an adequate come-from-behind surge.

Iowa's results tightened the Democratic field — Sens. Joe Biden and Christopher Dodd dropped out shortly after the outcome was clear Thursday night. John Edwards mounted an energetic, populist campaign only to see himself repeat his 2004 second place finish in Iowa. He vowed to continue, but he trails Obama and Clinton in polls and in money.

Obama

For Republicans, Huckabee's victory served to keep their contest wide open. He beat Romney by nearly 9 percentage points, a setback for the former Massachusetts governor who now faces a reinvigorated McCain. Fred Thompson was looking beyond New Hampshire to South Carolina. And Rudy Giuliani, fading in New Hampshire, was counting on Florida and big state contests on Feb. 5.

An unpredictable factor could be Republican Ron Paul, an anti-war congressman with libertarian views whose legions of volunteers have fanned out across New Hampshire waving placards and knocking on doors in support of their dark horse candidate. Paul has raised a surprising amount of money, further complicating the political calculations in the state.

In their victory speeches, Obama

(See NEW HAMPSHIRE, Page 2A)

Eric Schmadel/For The Valley Independent

Ben Barcovtch, 18, of East Huntingdon, is returning to the Pennsylvania Farm Show this year after making his first trip to exhibit his hogs last year. He's worked to groom and fatten his 250-pound hog for four months.

Farm Show kicks off Saturday

The 92nd annual extravaganza is expected to attract more than 400,000 visitors during its eight-day run.

By MARY PICKELS
For The Valley Independent
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Kelsey Breakiron, a sophomore at West Virginia University, has a unique plan to raise tuition money. She'll sell the pig she's showing in the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

At 19, Breakiron is aging out of the 4-H program and competing for the last time after winning numerous ribbons in competition at the Fayette County Fair for 11 years.

"Everyone keeps complimenting (her pig) and saying, 'The pig looks so good,' so I'm keeping my hopes up," the Hopwood woman said.

Breakiron is among several hundred 4-H members and adults from Southwestern Pennsylvania who will head for Harrisburg to show off their animals, jams and jellies, square-dance moves, and even beekeeping skills at the farm show complex.

The 92nd annual Pennsylvania Farm Show, which opens Saturday and runs through Jan. 12, is expected to attract more than 400,000 visitors. They can view nearly 8,000 animals, 10,000 competitive exhibits and 270 commercial exhibitors. Prize winners will take home more than $465,000.

More than 30 4-H members from Fayette County will be among them, said Don Fretts, director of the Penn State Cooperative Extension.

Ben Barcovtch, 18, of East Huntingdon has shown his hogs at the Fayette County Fair several times.

"I went out (to the farm show) last year and I really liked it, and I decided to go this year," said Barcovtch, a senior at Southmoreland High School.

He's worked to groom and fatten his 250-pound hog for four months.

"They (judges) like a long, muscular pig with a good walk," Barcovtch said.

Another 70 4-H members from Westmoreland County will compete at the state show, according to Joann Logan, educator with the Penn State County Cooperative Extension.

Hannah Zundel, 13, and her brother, Colton Zundel, 10, of New Alexandria are experienced competitors at both the Westmoreland Fair and the farm show.

This year, Hannah is showing a hog and steer, and Colton is showing a hog.

The longtime 4-H members have prepared their animals for the show ring with daily walks, brushings and weigh-ins, said their mother, Rene Zundel.

"They didn't have much of a Christmas vacation," she said. "But this is what they want to do."

Chris Ament, 15, is on the square-dancing team that

(See FARM SHOW, Page 2A)

Crossing guard struck by car is hospitalized

Edger Jones, 60, of Washington Township, was struck Thursday morning in front of Marion Elementary School.

For The Valley Independent

A Fayette County school crossing guard was in stable condition today at a Pittsburgh hospital where he was being treated for injuries suffered when he was struck by a speeding car Thursday morning, police said.

Edger Jones, 60, of Perry Avenue, Washington Township, was flown to Allegheny General Hospital after the 8:30 a.m. incident in front of Marion Elementary School.

Washington Township police Chief James McCune said Jones was struck by a vehicle driven by Robert E. Welch, 29, of 122 Nagy St., Washington Township.

McCune said Welch was driving on Perry Avenue at approximately 45 mph.

The posted speed limit is 35 mph in that area.

"He came into a school zone still traveling at that speed," McCune said, noting the speed limit in the school zone is 15 mph.

"According to him, he attempted to apply his brakes and his brakes did not work. He didn't notice the crossing guard until he already struck him."

Welch continued down Perry Avenue but returned to the scene of the incident after he was able to stop his vehicle, he told police.

McCune said police had yet to interview Jones because of his injuries.

Jones was in stable condition, according to a nursing supervisor at the hospital.

He suffered a dislocated shoulder as well as lacerations to his head and a knee, McCune said.

McCune said he doesn't believe any children were in danger.

"His responsibility is to let the buses in and out and to stop all the traffic to let the buses out," McCune said.

"There are some kids that cross in that area, but I think it's only a few because most of the parents just drop them off."

Dick's eyes airport site, new tax abatement

Fast-expanding firm operates about 340 stores in 36 states and hopes to expand to 800 stores nationwide.

By JIM RITCHIE and RON DaPARMA
For The Valley Independent
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Fast-expanding Dick's Sporting Goods wants to move to an office complex that could grow to be half the size of Pittsburgh's airport terminal, and the company might seek another tax abatement to do so, officials said Thursday.

Dick's, based in Findlay, is negotiating a move to property near Pittsburgh International Airport that would place it within a Foreign Trade Zone, which waives federal import and export duties for companies. Dick's operates about 340 stores in 36 states and hopes to expand to 800 stores nationwide.

Its plan to build a 670,000-square-foot complex that could grow to be 1 million square feet would be its third move since 1994. The complex would sit on 116 acres owned by the Allegheny County Airport Authority and include a maintenance facility with direct access to an airport taxiway.

Dick's spokesman Jeff Hennion declined to comment on the company's plans. Agreements with the airport authority and Findlay must be approved.

The company has "gone from an initial 67,000-square-foot space to 200,000 square feet and now they've outgrown this building too," said Dennis Davin, the county's Economic Development director.

"I think you can say they have far exceeded what they asked to do," Davin said. "You can tell because they already need more space."

Local officials favor the proposed move to a site near Flaugherty Run Road, but it's raising some questions. Municipal and school officials say the first two tax abatement programs for Dick's didn't pay.

More than $200,000 in back taxes from Dick's are unpaid – and company officials have approached Findlay and West Allegheny School District about the possibility of another tax abatement, said township Manager Gary Klingman and Jerry Wessel, business manager for the school district.

"The developer came in, and they were sort of testing the waters," said Wessel. "We raised the issue that we've done abatements twice before to keep them in the area, and we have not collected anything."

"This really dampened our enthusiasm for any more of these kind of deals," said Thomas Gallant, chairman of Findlay supervisors. "When people come to us from now here on in and ask if

(See DICK'S, Page 2A)

Farm show (FROM PAGE ONE)

took first place at the farm show last year. The Unity teen hopes to repeat the victory this year.

Ament, a freshman at Greater Latrobe Junior High School, also is entering a storage bin for dog food in the woodwork competition.

"My pap was a big woodworker, so I have a lot of tools," he said.

Honey, afghans and jams

Exhibiting is not just for young people. Adults hold a slight majority in the livestock and commodities -- fruits, vegetables, nuts -- categories, a farm show spokeswoman said.

James Fitzroy, president of the Beaver Valley Beekeepers, will enter jars of his honey, which won best of show in 2005.

Fitzroy of Penn Hills in Allegheny County competes in several Beaver County fairs and regularly takes home ribbons.

The 66-year-old has kept beehives for about 20 years.

He grew up in Penn Hills when it was a rural farming district, he said.

Fitzroy, who will staff an information booth for the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association at the show, said he enjoys reading the judges' evaluations.

"It helps me improve what I do," he said.

Paula Bender, 40, a nurse from Pittsburgh's Bloomfield section, has made afghans and cross-stitched since she was 10 years old. For the first time, she'll enter her handiwork in this year's competition.

"I had it on my list of things to do before I die," she said.

She also talked her mother, Pauline Bender, into entering a crocheted tablecloth and afghan.

Paula Bender, 40, a nurse from Pittsburgh's Bloomfield section, has made afghans and cross-stitched since she was 10 years old. For the first time, she'll enter her handiwork in this year's competition.

Bender, who grew up on a potato farm in Cambria County, often attended the farm show with her family when she was a child.

"I don't care if I win or not," Bender said. "It will be fun to go and see it hanging up there."

Indiana County Extension Agency educator Carol Schurman said 34 4-H members and six adults are competing this year.

Connie Bruner, 36, of Blairsville grew up in the 4-H program. She and her husband, Clark, now lead the Indiana County 4-H Travel-All Club.

This summer, she taught her young daughters how to can and preserve the jams and jellies, fruits and vegetables that won several prizes in the Indiana County Fair.

"I thought, if it's that good, why don't we take it to the state and see what happens?"

Yesterycar

Fleming Mosely, of Monessen, was a starting guard and nose tackle for California State College's unbeaten (8-0-0) football team in 1958. Mosely, a 1955 graduate of Monessen High School who earned All-State honors as a college player, graduated from California in 1960 and now lives in Lorain, Ohio.

If you have a good old-time photograph, send it to us at Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa., 15062.

New Hampshire

(FROM PAGE ONE)

and Huckabee struck similar cords and distinguished themselves from their respective fields — portraying themselves as unifiers and change agents who didn't view the world in simply Republican and Democratic hues.

"You said the time has come to move beyond the bitterness and pettiness and anger that's consumed Washington," Obama told his raucous supporters. "To end the political strategy that's been all about division, and instead make it about addition. To build a coalition for change that stretches through red states and blue states. Because that's how we'll win in November, and that's how we'll finally meet the challenges that we face as a nation."

Huckabee, sounding some of the same economic populist themes that Democrats had often heard from Edwards, said Americans were eager for change.

"But what they want is a change that starts with a challenge to those of us who were given this sacred trust of office so that we recognize that what our challenge is to bring this country back together, to make Americans, once again, more proud to be Americans than just to be Democrats or Republicans," he said. "To be more concerned about being going up instead of just going to the left or to the right."

Money, a defining measure of candidate strength throughout 2007, turned out to be not so determinative in Iowa.

Romney, a multimillionaire who pumped more than $17 million of his own money into the campaign by September, spent about $7 million on ads in Iowa to Huckabee's $1.4 million.

Likewise, Edwards remained in the mix with Obama and Clinton even though they broke all fundraising records last year.

Obama spent $9 million in television ads in Iowa, Clinton spent $7 million and Edwards spent only $3 million.

Romney's and Clinton's inability to win was also a blow to much of the Democratic and Republican party establishment that had lined up behind both candidates.

But if money was only secondary in Iowa, it could still be a factor ahead. Romney could tap his wealth again to carry him through New Hampshire and Michigan thereafter. And with Obama and Clinton at the top, the Democratic contest appears to be dominated by two financial titans.

As Clinton campaign manager Patti Solis Doyle said after the results were in: "Our campaign was built for a marathon and we have the resources to run a national race in the weeks ahead."

Polls of Iowa voters as they entered the caucuses showed that Obama outpolled Clinton among women, and benefited from a surge in first-time caucusgoers and young voters in what was a record Democratic turnout. Similar enthusiasm in New Hampshire could again favor Obama in Tuesday's balloting.

Huckabee rode to victory on the strength of born-again or evangelical Christians, who comprised six in 10 Republican caucusgoers. But New Hampshire's Republican electorate is less overtly religious and more fiscally conservative.

Even so, Huckabee has a penchant for retail politics and offers a message that is not singularly religious in tone.

"The thing you can say about Mike Huckabee is that he has a very different coalition," said Charlie Arlinghaus, a longtime New Hampshire GOP strategist and senior adviser to Thompson.

"Giuliani's support comes from moderates and Romney's from conservatives. But Huckabee crosses a lot of lines — socially conservative and economically populist.

"That's why he was underestimated."

While Huckabee's victory over Romney heartened McCain, Obama's win could work against him under New Hampshire's wide open voting system.

Obama is likely to attract many Democratic-leaning independents who might have voted for McCain if it appeared that Clinton had sewn up the Democratic contest.

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High 45 Low 38	High 52 Low 38	High 59 Low 42	High 58 Low 42	High 52 Low 32

Different factors helped Iowa winners

Mike Huckabee was helped by religion, Barack Obama by outcry for change in Iowa.

By ALAN FRAM
Associated Press Writer

Religion played a huge role in Mike Huckabee's triumph in the Iowa Republican caucuses, though there are some mixed signals for him on the road ahead. On the Democratic side, it was fresh blood — and an outcry for change — that helped propel Barack Obama to his victory in the state.

Eight in 10 Huckabee supporters said they are born again or evangelical Christians, according to an entrance poll for The Associated Press and television networks. Another six in 10 said it was very important to share their candidate's religious beliefs. In both categories, none of the former Arkansas governor's opponents came close to that kind of support.

In addition, six in 10 Huckabee supporters — more than his rivals — said it was most important that their candidate shared their values. Only 4 percent of his backers said they wanted a contender with experience, and 2 percent said they were looking for a Republican who can win the White House in November.

On the Democratic side, more than a third of Obama's support was from voters under age 30, eclipsing Hillary Rodham Clinton and John Edwards among the young, according to those entering the caucuses. In contrast, more than a third of Clinton's vote came from people age 65 and older, far more than her top rivals.

More than half of Edwards' supporters were veteran caucus goers, while most of Clinton's and Obama's backers were first-timers. And a desire for change was like a rocket booster for Obama — half of Democrats said the ability to force change was the pivotal factor in picking a candidate, and half of them backed the youthful Illinois senator.

For both Iowa winners, though, the momentum they gained will be tested.

With New Hampshire's primaries next Tuesday, the campaign's next stop is a state where only about one in five GOP voters are born again or evangelical Christians — about one-third the number who claimed that status among Iowa Republicans.

While 46 percent of Iowa's born again or evangelical GOP voters backed Huckabee, a slight majority did not — indicating a willingness to support candidates other than the ordained Baptist minister who has made religion a centerpiece of his campaign. Mitt Romney, former governor of New Hampshire's neighbor, Massachusetts, got one in five of those voters in Iowa.

Huckabee dominated among Iowa conservatives overall, winning about a third of their vote, compared to about a quarter for Romney. Yet most of that support came from conservatives who are also born again or evangelical. Nearly half of them voted for Huckabee, compared to less than a fifth of other conservatives who supported him.

Huckabee trailed John McCain, and was even with Romney, among the one in 10 at the GOP caucuses who say they are independents. New Hampshire has more independents than that.

As for Obama, he benefited from a strong turnout by young voters — 22 percent of Iowa Democrats at the caucuses were less than age 30, compared to the 17 percent of that age who voted in Iowa's 2004 Democratic race.

Obama won a staggering 57 percent of those young people's votes. Young voters are typically harder to lure to the polls than older ones, and it's not certain he will be able to maintain that kind of commitment from them as the contest hopscotches around the country.

He won four in 10 votes of those attending Iowa's caucuses for the first time — a group that comprised more than half of those who showed up Thursday.

Just more than half of Obama supporters were single, while more than six in 10 of Clinton's and Edwards' were married.

Obama's strength also enabled him to narrowly capture a banner that many national polls showed belonged to Clinton: women. He got 35 percent of their support, compared to 30 percent for the New York senator and 23 percent for Edwards, the former senator from North Carolina. In other words, only three in 10 women backed the candidate who if victorious would be the first female president.

There was a winner in Iowa Thursday who had majority support from women, but it was Huckabee. Fifty-two percent of his votes came from women, making him the only GOP candidate to get more than half his support from females.

Besides leading among women, Huckabee tied Romney among men. He also prevailed among young and middle-aged voters and those earning less than $100,000 annually, while breaking even with Romney among the oldest people.

About a third of Clinton's supporters cited experience as the key personal quality they were seeking, well ahead of her two major rivals. As for Edwards, one-third of his strength came from those looking for a candidate who empathizes with people — far more than his opponents received.

The poll was conducted for the AP and the television networks by Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International as voters arrived at 40 sites.

Dick's (FROM PAGE ONE)

we'll give them this kind of abatement, the answer likely will be 'no' because of this type of situation."

It's not clear whether locating in a Foreign Trade Zone would benefit Dick's financially, said F. Brooks Robinson Jr., vice president of marketing for the Regional Industrial Development Corp., which manages the zone.

"RIDC has spoken with Dick's about the Foreign Trade Zone program and how it could help them, but we have not been site-specific," he said.

Dick's, which received county and local tax abatements on its original building and a subsequent move, leases a 200,000-square-foot building on Industry Drive from USAA Real Estate Co., based in San Antonio.

The first abatement offered a five-year break on taxes at a decreasing rate for the company's first property in Findlay, located nearby on Industry Drive. The second, for its current location, was a three-year tax abatement. Those abatements have expired, but taxes on the land and building Dick's occupies remain unpaid.

Findlay and West Allegheny officials say Dick's is not to blame for the nonpayment of taxes. The problem is Allegheny County's inability to provide assessment information for the land, they said. The amount owed on the land isn't known.

"This was clearly a snafu that had its origins with the county and its ability to provide documentation to collect these taxes," Gallant said. "We want the project to go forward."

The abatement on the building expired Aug. 3, but no taxes have been paid. Findlay estimates it is owed about $50,000 and the school district another $160,000, so far.

Davin said the problem soon will be resolved.

"I think it's a matter of getting the assessments nailed down," Davin said. "Obviously anything that's owed is going to get paid. It's no fault of Dick's."

The shortfall has had an impact, especially in cash-strapped Findlay. Supervisors froze township wages and increased the Local Services Tax on in-township workers from $20 to $52 to maintain a $6.1 million budget for 2008 without raising property taxes.

Valley briefs

Wecht's lawyers charge bad faith

Lawyers for Dr. Cyril H. Wecht want a federal judge to determine if prosecutors acted in bad faith by requesting to drop half the charges against the former Allegheny County coroner two years after they were filed and a few weeks before trial.

"The defense objects to this last-minute attempt to restructure the trial more to their liking and prevent the defense from using the dismissed counts as an example of charges inadequately investigated before being made," defense attorney Jerry McDevitt wrote in the request filed Thursday.

The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia, meanwhile, denied a second request by Wecht's lawyers to delay the trial and remove U.S. District Judge Arthur J. Schwab from the case.

On Tuesday, the court will consider an appeal by local news organizations, including the *Tribune-Review,* a sister public ation of *The Valley Independent,* to reverse Schwab's decision to keep juror identities secret from the public. Media lawyers have asked that Jan. 10 jury selection and the Jan. 28 trial be postponed if a decision cannot be made by then.

Autopsies costly in Westmoreland

Death was expensive in Westmoreland County last year.

Autopsy costs hit a five-year high in 2007, as the county Coroner's Office paid more than a quarter-million dollars for the examination of bodies.

According to statistics released this week by Coroner Ken Bacha, the office conducted 116 autopsies, or 25 more than the previous year.

"The numbers are up because there were a lot more deaths that have been suspicious in nature or suspected because of drug use," said Chief Deputy Coroner Paul Cycak.

Police or the coroner can request an autopsy and in most cases they are performed when criminal activity is suspected or the cause of death cannot be immediately determined.

On Monday, the office ordered the last autopsy of 2007. That case involved a 45-year-old Latrobe man who was found dead in his home.

"We just had no idea why he died, so we ordered an autopsy," Cycak said.

Westmoreland County last year paid $2,181 for each autopsy.

That figure includes $1,300 paid to forensic pathologist Dr. Cyril Wecht to perform the examination.

Crash closes Interstate 70

Wayne E. Ray/For The Valley Independent

A Blazer, driven by Verna Molek, no age provided, of Coal Center, collided with an Acura driven by Kristi Kelley, no age provided, of Daisytown, 1:54 p.m. Thursday on Interstate 70 in Fallowfield Township, state police reported. The Molek vehicle struck a guardrail and rolled over several times before coming to rest. Kelley was treated at Monongahela Valley Hospital and later released. No information was available on the condition of Molek, who was extricated from her vehicle by Fallowfield Township firefighters.

Cal U president's pay hike boosts salary to $209,429

Dr. Angelo Armenti ranks third among his peers as far as salary is concerned.

By CHRIS BUCKLEY
Staff Writer
cbuckley@tribweb.com

The longest serving university president in the State System, California University of Pennsylvania President Dr. Angelo Armenti Jr. ranks third among his peers in the state as far as salary is concerned.

Armenti, who has served at Cal U since 1992, now earns $209,429, according to figures released Thursday by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. That's up 2.9 percent, an increase of $5,867 over the amount he earned during the 2006-07 school year.

Salary increases for all 14 university presidents were approved by the state system board late last month. They are retroactive to July 1, the start of the current state fiscal year.

Armenti's salary ranks slightly above the national average for presidents of master's universities with annual budgets ranging between $80 million and $105 million.

The median salary among presidents of such sized universities was $206,000, according to figures released by the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources.

Similarly, Indiana University of Pennsylvania President Tony Atwater's salary is slightly above the median salary among his peers in similarly sized universities. Atwater now earns $240,333 after receiving a $6,625 raise.

Kenn Marshall, spokesman for the state syetem, said Armenti's salary is due in part to how long he has served as president at the university as well as the school's performance in student retention and graduation rates.

"California University has done exceptionally well in those performance areas," Marshall said. "His salary is based not only on his tenure, but because he has the university performing well in those areas."

The salary increases for all 14 SSHE presidents average 2.6 percent and are based on their individual performances, Marshall said. That average is based on the percent increase of union employees at the universities, Marshall said.

The management pool is usually set in July, but wasn't set this year until October because the state was negotiating seven union contracts and the state budget wasn't approved until after the June 30 deadline.

After the management pool was set, the presidents were evaluated in order for the board to set their raises.

In addition to the salary hikes, each university president received a one time cash payment of $1,250.

In July, AFSME employees at the state-run universities received $1,250 cash bonuses in addition to raises of 2.25 percent, Marshall said. These employees include clerical and maintenance workers at the vari-

Presidential pay comparison

University	Service date	Salary	Percent increase	Enrollment
Bloomsburg	2008	$190,000	NA	8,745
California	1992	$209,429	2.9%	8,206
Cheyney	2007	$190,000	N/A	1,436
Clarion	2003	$185,966	2.6%	6,795
E. Stroudsburg	1996	$192,032	2.85%	7,053
Edinboro	2007	$190,000	N/A	7,686
Indiana	2005	$240,333	2.85%	14,018
Kutztown	2002	$201,843	2.35%	10,295
Lock Haven	2004	$203,470	2.60%	5,241
Mansfield	2006	$168,000	1.75%	3,338
Millersville	2003	$191,626	2.85 %	8,306
Shippensburg	2007	$192,675	0.75%	7,765
Slippery Rock	2004	$200,292	2.9%	8,325
West Chester	1992	$229,000	2.95%	13,219

Domestic dispute defendant waives right to hearing

By JEFF OLIVER
Staff Writer
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MONONGAHELA - An 18-year-old man charged with stabbing his father during an argument over the family Christmas tree waived his right to a preliminary hearing Thursday.

Justin Dwayne Fowler, of 105 Sixth St., second floor, is charged with aggravated assault, two counts of simple assault, recklessly endangering another person, criminal mischief and disorderly conduct in connection with the incident at his home.

Fowler is alleged to have stabbed his father, Patrick Fowler, during a physical altercation outside the family home just after midnight on Dec. 27.

Justin Fowler appeared Thursday before Magisterial District Judge Mark Wilson, of Monongahela. He is currently lodged in the Washington County jail in lieu of $100,000 straight cash bond.

According to the arrest affidavit filed by Monongahela police, the dispute began when the younger Fowler tried to take down the family Christmas tree and his father wanted to leave it up a little longer.

PATRICK FOWLER

The dispute moved outside when Justin Fowler allegedly challenged his father to a fight.

When Patrick Fowler came outside, his son was wielding a knife and is alleged to have stabbed him in the hand and leg area.

Before the hearing was waived, Justin Fowler's public defender, Thomas Cooke, said that the aggravated assault charge against his client had been withdrawn.

As for any bond reduction, Cooke said, "We will deal with that at the next level."

Cooke said his client doesn't have any other records as an adult, but does have "some juvenile issues that may or may not affect sentencing."

"For sure, he has nothing like this on his record," Cooke said.

"This was just a family dispute and a bad one at that."

Cooke said Fowler's father was agreeable to dropping the aggravated assault charge.

"It's my understanding that the father wants his son to have anger management counseling," Cooke said.

"I think he is feeling compassionate toward his son."

JUSTIN FOWLER

UPMC joins Mercy ministry

For The Valley Independent

In a ceremony punctuated by bell ringing, candle lighting and health care-themed songs and prayers, Pittsburgh's oldest hospital marked its transfer of ownership to the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center on Thursday.

Officially, Mercy Hospital became UPMC Mercy two days earlier. But yesterday, in the Uptown hospital's Holy Family Chapel, Jeffrey Romoff, president and CEO of UPMC, accepted the Sisters of Mercy's invitation to join their ministry.

"We welcome the administration and employees of UPMC," said Sister Margaret Hannan, president of the Sisters of Mercy. "It is with great optimism that we envision the future, a future that will be brighter with your presence."

About 250 people attended the hourlong ceremony, including Bishop David A. Zubik and other guests from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh; members of the UPMC board of trustees, administration and medical executive committees; and Mercy employees with significant tenure.

Other Mercy employees were invited to watch a Webcast of the event.

The ceremony followed almost three years of negotiations, after the Sisters of Mercy recognized economic realities facing their hospital, which ran up more than $40 million in operatin g loses.

STOCK GUIDE

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MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT

Mark Wilson, Monongahela

The following cases were held before Magisterial District Judge Mark Wilson of Monongahela this week:

■ Ebony Milea Goins, 33, of 68 McKinley Ave., Charleroi, was charged with possession of a controlled substance, possession with intent to deliver or manufacture, two counts of delivery and possession of drug paraphernalia Oct. 27 by Donora police. The manufacturing charge was withdrawn and the other charges were waived to court.

■ Alan Keith Crow, 28, of 3172 Route 136, Finleyville, was charged with DUI and traffic violations Nov. 16 by Donora police. The charges were held for court.

■ Daryl Eugene Carpenter, 56, of 521 Second St., Donora, was charged with possession of a controlled substance and false identification Nov. 11 by Donora police. The charges were held for court.

■ William Namie, 66, of 349 Market St., Donora, was charged with harassment Nov. 27 by Donora police. He was found guilty.

■ Adam Fincik, 23, of 312 Tenth St., Donora, was charged with retail theft Oct. 29 by Carroll Township police. He was found guilty.

■ Joyce Goode, 47, of 215 Eleventh St., Donora, was charged with disorderly conduct Oct. 22 by Donora police. She was found not guilty.

■ Christine Lee Patterson, 40, of 142 Wisebecker Lane, Carroll Township, was charged with DUI, driving while her license was suspended and other traffic violations. The DUI and driving while suspended charges were held for court while other traffic charges were dismissed.

DEATH NOTICES

BUFFA — Ralph Buffa, 81, of Rostraver Township, formerly of Monessen, on Thursday, Jan. 3. Dalfonso-Billick Funeral Home Inc., Monessen.*

FARMER — Margaret A. Farmer, 84, of Belle Vernon, on Thursday, Jan. 3. James C. Stump Funeral Home Inc., Sweeney Plan/Rostraver Township.*

NEWMEYER — John J. Newmeyer, 81, of Greensburg, formerly of Charleroi, on Wednesday, Jan. 2. Clement L. Pantalone Funeral Home Inc., Greensburg.*

* See death notice

John J. Newmeyer
Greensburg
Formerly of Charleroi

John J. Newmeyer, 81, of Greensburg, formerly of Charleroi, died Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2008, in St. Anne Home, Greensburg. He was born June 22, 1926, in Large (Allegheny County), a son of the late Jack and Agnes Stankus Newmeyer. John was a member of the former St. Jerome Roman Catholic Church in Charleroi and a member of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg, where he was active in many ministries. He also was a member of the Serra Club, the Knights of Columbus and the St. Vincent College Development Club. John was employed as a dispatcher by Allegheny (West Penn) Power in Charleroi and Greensburg. John was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps. He is survived by his wife, Pauline T. Roscoe Newmeyer; eight children, Bill (Laurie) Newmeyer, of Bel Air, Md., Dave (Wanda) Roscoe, of Pleasant Unity, JJ (Paulette) Newmeyer, of Morgantown, W.Va., Linda Tanner, of Elmira, N.Y., Marian (Mike) Kohan, of Erie, Paul (Marianne) Newmeyer, of Cranberry, Anne (Pete) Poncheri, of Reading, and Mark (Sonya) Newmeyer, of Westmoreland City; one daughter-in-law, Karen (Sam) Haines, of Rices Landing; one niece, Sharon (Larry) Schifano, of Bethel Park; 27 grandchildren, Joe, Krisi, Bill, Barbara, Julianna, Sarah, Josh and Lilliana Newmeyer, Rita (Jeremy) Sutherland, Maria (Bernie) McNally, Matt and Mark Kohan, Rachel, Eric and Gina Siciliano, Zac (Mel) and Rachel Marie Poncheri, Michelle (Matt) Schlegel, Amanda and Donnie DeLeva, Jason (Maggie) Zimmerman, Sarah (Matt) Voisin, Paul, Ben and Samantha Washnock, and Samantha and Hunter Haines; and three great-grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Lillian Doroban Newmeyer; one son, Richard Newmeyer; and his brother, William Newmeyer. Relatives and friends are invited to celebrate John's life on Sunday from 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. in the CLEMENT L. PANTALONE FUNERAL HOME INC., Natale N. Pantalone, Supervisor, 409 West Pittsburgh St., Greensburg (724-837-0020). A prayer service will be held Monday, Jan. 7, at 9 a.m. in the funeral home, followed by a Funeral Mass in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral at 9:30 a.m. Interment will be in Calvary Cemetery, Charleroi at 12:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: St. Vincent Seminary, 300 Frazier Purchase Road, Latrobe, Pa. 15650; Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, 300 North Main St., Greensburg, Pa. 15601; or to the charity of one's choice. www.pantalone.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Ralph Buffa
Rostraver Township

Ralph Buffa, 81, of Rostraver Township, formerly of Monessen, died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2008, in Monongahela Valley Hospital Inc. He was born in Monessen on Dec. 5, 1926, the son of the late Michael and Louise Minardi Buffa. He owned and operated Dunn Rite Siding and Soffit Company until his retirement. He was a member of Epiphany of Our Lord Roman Catholic Church, Monessen Elks Lodge 773, and Mon Valley Home Builders Association. Mr. Buffa served his country during World War II with the U.S. Navy, having served in the Philippines. He is survived by his wife, Donna Fine Buffa; five sons and four daughters-in-law, Ralph M. and Linda Buffa, of Monessen, James W. Hallam, of Rostraver Township, Jeffrey and Patty Hallam, of Monessen, Jay and Kelly Hallam, of Georgia, and Sean and Lisa Buffa, of Myrtle Beach, S.C.; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Diana and Andy Dzatko, of Monessen, Wendy Gatalica, of Fayette City, and Jennifer and Edward Blaszczak, of Uniontown; 13 grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Bobbie Lee Buffa; and a sister, Eda Rose "Edith" Henderson. Friends will be received Friday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m., and Saturday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the DALFONSO-BILLICK FUNERAL HOME INC. and CREMATION SERVICES, 441 Reed Ave., Monessen (724-684-8750). Services will be held Saturday, Jan. 5, beginning with an 11:30 a.m. blessing service in the funeral home, followed by a noon Funeral Mass in Epiphany of Our Lord R.C. Church. Interment will follow in Grandview Cemetery, Monessen. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Mon Valley Relay for Life through the funeral home. Condolences accepted at www.dalfonso-billick.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Margaret A. Farmer
Belle Vernon

Margaret A. Campbell Farmer, 84, of Belle Vernon (Rostraver Township), died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2008, at the home of her daughter in Ruffsdale. Born April 26, 1923, in Donora, she was the daughter of the late Francis and Regina Riley Campbell. Margaret was an executive secretary on the Donora Southern Railroad before resigning to raise her family. She was a true friend, wonderful listener and practitioner of quiet acts of kindness. Margaret was an outstandingly loving Irish wife, mother and grandmother with a great sense of humor. Her gifts as a mother extended well beyond her own children. Margaret was preceded in death by her husband, Bill, in November 2006. She is survived by a son, Richard W. Farmer and wife, Beth, of Oakton, Va.; three daughters, Mary Ann Farmer and husband, David Heisler, of Greensburg, Joyce Farmer and husband, Jeff Gruskiewicz, of Ruffsdale, and Sally Granlund and husband, Art, of Belle Vernon; and nine grandchildren, Katie, Rob and Gretchen Heisler, Matthew and Ryan Farmer, Brandon, Chris and Jocelyn Gruskiewicz, and Bill Granlund. In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Francis Campbell; and her sister, June Mouyard. Friends will be received Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 3 and 5 to 7 p.m. in the JAMES C. STUMP FUNERAL HOME INC., 580 Circle Drive, Belle Vernon/Rostraver Township (724-929-7934); www.jamesstumpfuneralhome.com, where a Blessing Service will be held Monday, Jan. 7, at 9:15 a.m., followed by a Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in Seven Dolors Roman Catholic Church, Yukon, with the Very Rev. Kenneth C. Zaccagnini officiating. Interment will follow in Mon Valley Memorial Park, Carroll Township. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to The William and Margaret Farmer "Acts of Kindness" Memorial Scholarship Fund in care of Richard W. Farmer, executor.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Airport repayment to Allegheny Co. gains momentum

PITTSBURGH – A move to demand that the Allegheny County Airport Authority repay the $42.5 million that Allegheny County paid toward the construction of Pittsburgh International Airport is gaining support among county officials.

The measure, which will be addressed by County Council's budget and finance committee, might generate revenue when the county really needs it, said County Councilman Chuck McCullough, who pitched the move this week at his first council meeting.

"If there's a $42 million (debt) out there, it behooves us to go after it," said McCullough, R-Upper St. Clair, who said he became aware of the issue while serving as county solicitor under former County Chief Executive Jim Roddey.

The county airport authority already is paying off about $500 million in long-term debt, which amounts to about $62 million a year until 2018, spokeswoman JoAnn Jenny said. Jenny was not aware of McCullough's legislation.

"We hear that," McCullough said of the other debt at the airport. "But the bottom line is that's their obligation. ... This is a significant piece of change."

The $42.5 million figure represents more than the 2008 county budgets for public works ($28.6 million) or county police ($24.7 million).

Mayor issues 1 million pound challenge

Mick Cornett wants Oklahoma City to lose its reputation as one of America's fattest cities.

By SEAN MURPHY
Associated Press Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — With a button-popping spread of cornbread, sausage and gravy, chicken fried steak and pecan pie designated as Oklahoma's official state meal, it's no surprise that Oklahoma City's mayor wants to put the city on a diet.

Mick Cornett has challenged the city to shed 1 million pounds as its New Year's resolution.

Prompted in part by his own struggle to lose weight, Cornett wants to end Oklahoma City's dubious distinction as one of America's fattest cities.

"The message of this obesity initiative is that we've got to watch what we eat," Cornett said Thursday. "Exercise is part of it and the city is trying to change into a city that is less sprawling, has more density and is more pedestrian friendly, but you're not really going to take on obesity unless you acknowledge that we eat too much and don't eat the right foods."

As part of the initiative, residents can sign up and track their weight loss on a new Web site, www.thiscityisgoingonadiet.com. More than 2,600 people had registered by Thursday. They've lost more than 300 pounds.

Besides a body mass index calculator, the site includes recipes and links to metro-area fitness centers. Plans call for expanding the site to include the opportunity to blog and network with other participants, Cornett said.

"It's always easier if you're doing something hard if you have other people to do it with," he said.

The mayor timed the start of the weight-loss program to the beginning of the new year, when many people begin exercise programs after holiday feasts.

Oklahoma City ranked 15th in a 2007 survey of America's fattest cities conducted by Men's Fitness magazine. The survey examined lifestyle factors in each city, including fast-food restaurants per capita and availability of city parks, gyms and bike paths.

"I can't tell you exactly where you rank in our 2008 survey, but I can tell you that Oklahoma City is in the top 10," magazine spokeswoman Jennifer Krosche said. "That's not good."

The Oklahoma Legislature designated an official state meal in 1988. The menu also includes fried okra, squash, barbecue pork, biscuits, grits, corn, strawberries and black-eyed peas.

Cornett, 49, stands about 5-foot-10 and weighs 183 pounds. He began a personal fitness initiative eight months ago when he weighed 217 pounds.

"I would like to get down to 175, so I've made a goal to lose 8 pounds over 8 weeks," he said.

Carrie Snyder-Renfro, a 44-year-old teacher working out at a fitness center Thursday, said she made a resolution last month to eat healthier and exercise. While she was unaware of the mayor's Web site, she said she would consider signing up.

"Last year I dieted and lost about 10 pounds a month for three months, but I left out a key component," she said, huffing and puffing on an elliptical machine. "I didn't exercise regularly. I ended up losing muscle mass instead of fat, and I ended up gaining almost all of it back.

"Now I'm making it more of a priority to put everything in balance. I have to get the eye of the tiger back."

Cornett wants to make exercise more attractive to residents by increasing the number of bike trails and sidewalks in the sprawling city, where public transportation is minimal, most people are wedded to their cars and outdoor activities for some might be limited to watching a football game.

"In Colorado, you ski, you climb, you run ... something," said Karen Massey, community nutrition coordinator at Integris Baptist Medical Center. "In Oklahoma, we're either involved in competitive sports or we do nothing. We're spectators."

Associated Press

Karen Massey, left, community nutrition coordinator at Integris Baptist Medical Center, looks on as Nancy Shidler, director of Pacer Health Services, talks Thursday in Oklahoma City.

In Memory Of
Frank Brudnik, Sr.
In loving memory of our beloved husband, father, grandfather & great-grandfather,
Frank Brudnik, Sr.,
who passed away 1 year ago today, January 4, 2007.
Gone, dear loved one, gone forever, how we miss your smiling face. But you left us to remember, none on earth can take your place. A happy home we once enjoyed, how sweet the memory still, but death has left a loneliness the world can never fill.
Sadly missed by
wife Julia & Family.

POLICE LOG

Southwest Regional

■ John Lisbon, 49, of 424 Market St., Belle Vernon, was cited for violating the borough's dog ordinance for allowing his dog to bark for more than a half hour at 12:46 p.m. Thursday.

Police said this is the 15th complaint for dogs barking at his residence and he was previously cited for the same violation Aug. 14.

Nora M. Crow-Cox
January 4, 2000
Nothing can ever take away the love a heart holds dear
Loved and Missed by Family and Friends

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Prizant's closing affecting many

Tribune-Review News Service

Pat Molyneaux guessed that about 100 customers were left with unfilled carpet and flooring orders when competitor Prizant's Carpet stores shut down suddenly in December.

Yet 100 people have contacted his six Molyneaux Tile & Carpet stores since Christmas, when he offered to credit deposits paid with Prizant's orders toward new orders with Molyneaux.

"Now, we think closer to 200 were affected," he said.

Dozens of Prizant's customers are reaching out to the state Attorney General's office and Better Business Bureau of Western Pennsylvania with complaints about Prizant's, which closed its 10 stores in two phases last month.

The company still hasn't said where customers should turn with questions about orders, warranties or other matters.

So far, 36 consumers from Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Indiana and Washington counties and East Liverpool, Ohio, have contacted the attorney general's office regarding complaints against Prizant's.

The Better Business Bureau, meanwhile, has logged 37 complaints in the last 10 days or so against the chain.

TODAY IN HISTORY

January 4

Today is Friday, Jan. 4, the fourth day of 2008. There are 362 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight:

On Jan. 4, 1965, President Johnson outlined the goals of his Great Society in his State of the Union Address.

On this date:

■ In 1821, the woman who would be named America's first native-born saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton, died in Emmitsburg, Md.

■ In 1896, Utah was admitted as the 45th state.

■ In 1904, the Supreme Court, in Gonzalez v. Williams, ruled that Puerto Ricans were not aliens and could enter the United States freely; however, the court stopped short of declaring them U.S. citizens.

■ In 1948, Burma (now called Myanmar) became independent of British rule.

■ In 1951, during the Korean War, North Korean and Communist Chinese forces captured the city of Seoul.

■ In 1960, French author Albert Camus died in an automobile accident at age 46.

■ In 1965, poet T.S. Eliot died in London at age 76.

■ In 1974, President Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee.

■ In 1987, 16 people were killed when an Amtrak train bound from Washington to Boston collided with Conrail locomotives that had crossed into its path from a side track in Chase, Md.

■ In 1995, the 104th Congress convened, the first entirely under Republican control since the Eisenhower era.

■ **Ten years ago**: Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy resigned, accusing the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of abandoning the peace process with the Arabs. Actress Mae Questel, who had supplied the voices of cartoon characters Betty Boop and Olive Oyl, died in New York at age 89.

■ **Five years ago**: As President Bush put the finishing touches on an economic growth package costing $674 billion over 10 years, Democrats who wanted his job pledged to scuttle what they characterized as a plan that would help the wealthy without reviving the economy. Oscar-winning cinematographer Conrad L. Hall died in Santa Monica, Calif., at age 76.

■ **One year ago**: Nancy Pelosi was elected the first female speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; Keith Ellison of Minnesota's 5th District became the first Muslim member of Congress. Harriet Miers resigned as White House counsel. Vincent Sardi Jr., owner of Sardi's restaurant, the legendary Broadway watering hole, died in Berlin, Vt., at age 91.

■ **Today's Birthdays**: Actress Barbara Rush is 81. Football Hall-of-Fame coach Don Shula is 78. Actress Dyan Cannon is 71. Opera singer Grace Bumbry is 71. Country singer Kathy Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 53. Actress Ann Magnuson is 52. Country singer Patty Loveless is 51. Rock singer Michael Stipe (R.E.M.) is 48. Actor Patrick Cassidy is 46. Actor Dave Foley is 45. Singer-musician Cait O'Riordan is 43. Actress Julia Ormond is 43. Tennis player Guy Forget is 43. Country singer Deana Carter is 42. Rock musician Benjamin Darvill (Crash Test Dummies) is 41. Actor Jeremy Licht is 37. Actress-singer Jill Marie Jones is 33.

Associated Press

Kristie Phelps holds a candle during a memorial for Tatiana the tiger Thursday outside the San Francisco Zoo.

San Fran Zoo reopens with safety improvements

Attorney says notion that victims taunted tiger is 'nonsense.'

By MARCUS WOHLSEN
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — The San Francisco Zoo reopened Thursday with safety improvements and more signs warning people not to pester animals, such as the 350-pound Siberian tiger that killed a teenager and injured two others more than a week ago.

The zoo's big-cat enclosure will remain closed indefinitely, but many visitors said Thursday that they wanted to show their support for the facility.

"We've always felt safe here at the zoo," said Dianne Todd, who was there with her husband and two adolescent sons. The zoo staff, she said, "do their best to keep everybody safe."

The zoo is installing an alert system that would notify staff of any emergency, spokesman Paul Garcia said. Employees could then use portable speakers to instruct visitors.

The improvements are being made as police investigate whether the tiger's victims taunted the animal before it climbed or leaped out of its outdoor pen. Carlos Sousa Jr., 17, was killed, and his two friends were severely injured.

"All I know is that something happened to provoke that tiger to leap out of her exhibit," zoo director Manuel Mollinedo said Wednesday. He declined to elaborate because the police investigation was not yet complete.

Sam Singer, a zoo spokesman, said that despite safety concerns about the facility, finding out whether the victims provoked the tiger could "explain why Christmas 2007 was different than any other day in the 70-year history of the big cat grottoes."

It is a misdemeanor for anyone to "molest, disturb, capture, injure, or destroy any animal in any park," including the zoo, according to Sgt. Steve Mannina, a police spokesman.

On Thursday, zoo officials invited visitors to bring items in remembrance of Sousa and the tiger, which was shot dead by police.

Some visitors placed flowers, cards and photographs of the animal beside a sculpture of a bronze tiger that has stood near the zoo entrance since before the mauling. An animal-rights group held a candlelight vigil for Sousa and the tiger, named Tatiana.

Susan Pettitt, 31, choked back tears as she laid flowers, photos and stuffed animals at the sculpture.

"It actually hurts pretty bad to hear about (Tatiana's) death," said Pettitt, who has visited the zoo weekly for three years.

Mannina said investigators were looking into whether alcohol was a factor in the attack. Toxicology tests on Sousa's body will probably not come back for several weeks, according to the San Francisco medical examiner's office.

Mark Geragos, an attorney for the survivors — brothers Kulbir Dhaliwal, 23, and Paul Dhaliwal, 19 — said none of the victims did anything to goad the tiger into breaking loose.

"That's just nonsense," Geragos said. "There is no evidence of taunting whatsoever, because there was no taunting."

Kenya opposition seeks new vote

After days of deadly election violence, president unlikely to accept demand.

By TOM ODULA
Associated Press Writer

NAIROBI, Kenya — Kenya's opposition party called today for a rerun of the country's disputed election, as political deadlock between the president and his chief rival ground on after a week of spiraling violence.

There was no immediate comment from the government of President Mwai Kibaki, who is unlikely to accept such a demand.

The opposition vowed street protests that shook Nairobi a day earlier would continue Friday, but by midday there no signs of a mass protest brewing. Small groups of protesters were gathering on street corners in the slums, though, saying they were preparing for a rally.

Anyang Nyongo, secretary-general of the opposition Orange Democratic Movement, said the country should ready "for a new election of the president." With the call, the opposition appeared to leave little room for compromise with Kibaki, who was declared winner of the Dec. 27 vote, setting the stage for more political tension.

"This is about a democracy and justice," Nyongo said. "We shall continue to defend and promote the right of Kenyans so that the democratic process should be fulfilled."

The opposition candidate, Raila Odinga, had called for a million people to gather Thursday in a park in the city center, but postponed that until Friday after protesters were pushed back by police with tear gas and water cannons.

In Kibera, the country's largest slum, shops remained shut Friday and small groups of protesters began to gather on street corners.

"Let people die and then there will be a change," said Joshua Okoth, standing with a group of young men by the smoking remains of a former food market in Kibera.

Okoth said he was trying to get to the rally in Uhuru Park, a traditional meeting place for political activists that was flooded with riot police today. Riot police also were patrolling the main roads leading from Kibera and other slums into central Nairobi.

THE WORLD BRIEFLY

Spears hands over kids to Federline

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Police were called to Britney Spears' home Thursday night in a custodial dispute that lasted nearly three hours before an intoxicated Spears reportedly turned over her children to ex-husband Kevin Federline.

Officers were called to the home around 8 p.m., and the 26-year-old singer turned over the children around 10:50 p.m., Officer Jason Lee, a police spokesman, told City News Service.

Aerial footage from KTLA-TV showed Spears being lifted in a gurney into an ambulance. It was unclear where she was being taken.

Lee said Spears was under the influence of an unknown substance, and no injuries were reported.

The incident involved a family dispute that police worked to resolve "peacefully by court order," he said.

British anti-terror team in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — British anti-terror officers came to Pakistan today to join the investigation into Benazir Bhutto's assassination, a day after President Pervez Musharraf dismissed allegations his government may have had a hand in the slaying.

The Scotland Yard team will provide forensic and technical expertise but will not be allowed to go on a "wild goose chase and create a political disturbance," Musharraf told a news conference late Thursday.

Bhutto's killing on Dec. 27 plunged an already volatile Pakistan deeper into crisis as it battled a surge in violence by al-Qaida and Taliban extremists. It also forced a six-week delay in parliamentary elections, now set for Feb. 18, which were seen as crucial to restoring stability and democracy to this U.S. ally.

Musharraf, a former army chief who seized power in a 1999 coup, rejected accusations that a security lapse led to Bhutto's killing and suggested she was partly at fault because she poked her head out of her bombproof vehicle's sunroof after an election rally despite threats by Islamic extremists.

He acknowledged his decision to seek outside help to investigate the killing was partly to allay suspicions of government complicity. Bhutto had accused elements in the ruling party of plotting to kill her.

Israel hits back for rocket fire

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israeli troops on a night mission in the Gaza Strip killed two Hamas gunmen early today as Israel responded to Palestinian rocket fire with strikes against militants that left 11 dead in 24 hours.

The simmering conflict between Israel and Gaza's armed groups has escalated less than a week before President Bush's visit to the region, overshadowing peace efforts and increasing the chances of a full-scale armed conflict in Gaza.

On Thursday, Palestinian militants hit Israel with a Katyusha rocket, a weapon with a deadlier warhead and longer range than the smaller rockets militants regularly launch. It hit in the northern part of the town of Ashkelon, the longest reach yet for a Palestinian rocket.

The Israelis hit back Thursday with airstrikes and ground operations that killed nine people, including three civilians. On Friday infantrymen inside Gaza, near the Israeli border, clashed with Hamas gunmen and killed two of them, according to Hamas and Palestinian medical officials.

Troops saw armed men approaching them and opened fire, the military said.

Union says Leno violated guild rules

NEW YORK (AP) — Jay Leno kept the jokes coming his second night back on the air, even as the striking writers union and his network sparred over whether he was violating union rules by writing his monologues.

The Writers Guild of America had scolded the "Tonight Show" host earlier Thursday for penning and delivering punch lines in his first monologue in two months, aired on NBC the night before.

NBC quickly fired back, arguing Leno, a guild member, was right and the guild was wrong.

"The WGA agreement permits Jay Leno to write his own monologue for 'The Tonight Show,'" NBC said in a statement. "The WGA is not permitted to implement rules that conflict with the terms of the collective bargaining agreement between the studios and the WGA."

The agreement between the guild and producers expired Oct. 31, but its terms remain in effect, said Andrea Hartman, executive vice president and deputy general counsel for NBC Universal. She cited federal labor law.

'PENNSYLVANIA CASH 5'

'Cash 5' jackpot at least $200,000

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Today's "Pennsylvania Cash 5" jackpot will be worth at least $200,000 because no player matched the five winning numbers drawn in Thursday's game.

Lottery officials said 83 players matched four numbers and won $386 each; 2,739 players matched three numbers and won $12.50 each; and 32,261 players matched two numbers and won $1 each.

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PENNSYLVANIA DAILY NUMBERS

THURSDAY, JAN. 3

DAY PICK 3:	6-8-5
NIGHT PICK 3:	4-4-6
DAY PICK BIG 4:	2-4-4-7
NIGHT PICK BIG 4:	8-1-3-7
TREASURE HUNT:	1-6-16-24-25
MIX & MATCH:	19-1-14-4-16
CASH 5:	9-16-29-37-38

OHIO DAILY NUMBERS

THURSDAY, JAN. 3

DAY PICK 3:	7-3-8
NIGHT PICK 3:	7-4-7
DAY PICK 4:	5-8-4-8
NIGHT PICK 4:	0-3-6-2
ROLLING CASH 5:	5-10-21-22-25

WEST VIRGINIA DAILY NUMBERS

THURSDAY, JAN. 3

DAILY 3:	3-9-0
DAILY 4:	6-4-7-2
CASH 25:	1-2-9-10-18-21

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of winning numbers and prize payouts. In the event of a discrepancy, the official and certified files maintained by the Pennsylvania Lottery's Security Office shall prevail.

THE Valley INDEPENDENT
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OUR OPINION

Playoff excitement surrounds Steelers

OK, SO THINGS haven't been looking so great for our Pittsburgh Steelers during the past few weeks.

There have been too many checks in the "L" column, and far too many important names on the list of injured players.

After a strong 7-2 start, the team lost four of its last seven matchups to finish 10-6 for the season.

Key players have been hurt — not the least of which is running back Willie Parker, who was the NFL's leading rusher before breaking his leg in the Dec. 20 game against the Rams.

But the good news is that despite fairly poor performances since a downhill slide following the unexpected Nov. 18 loss to the Jets, the Steelers are in the playoffs.

And that means something.

Certainly it's something big for head coach Mike Tomlin in his inaugural season.

So when the Jacksonville Jaguars come to town tomorrow, we're hoping that the Steelers aren't listening to all the naysayers who claim there's no way they can beat the Jags.

Or maybe they SHOULD pay attention to the hype and get fired up. Perhaps then they'll come out fighting mad and playing for a win, not just a respectable performance.

Because when the Steelers get as fired up as their Terrible Towel-waving fans, there's no telling what might happen.

Ben Roethlisberger has had a great season and probably should have been named MVP, although his teammates didn't select him for that honor. He's proven himself as a smart, solid and reliable quarterback. We look forward to watching him get even better in the years to come.

And we look forward to watching him lead his teammates to play to the best of their ability tomorrow evening. If they can find a way to give him some of the protection that's been missing the past several games and give him some room to work, who knows what could happen?

No, we're not expected to win on Saturday even though it's a home game and the Steelers went 7-1 at Heinz Field during the regular season.

The only team to beat them at home, ironically, was Jacksonville.

Most analysts we've heard are expecting a repeat of the Jaguars' Dec. 16 win over Pittsburgh.

But anyone who has ever been to Heinz Field knows how the roaring fans can affect the game.

The players — and the fans — will give it our best shot tomorrow and if the Steelers go in as underdogs and somehow come out with a win, we'll be ecstatic.

If not, we'll still be proud of a winning 2007 season and ever hopeful that next year our team will fulfill our dreams of a sixth world championship.

Do you agree? Do you disagree? The Valley Independent wants to hear from you. E-mail us at valleyletters@tribweb. com or write a letter to the editor. Include your phone number to allow for verification. Please limit letters to 350 words. We reserve the right to edit.

How to reach us

The Valley Independent welcomes the input of our readers. Letters, e-mails and faxes must be signed and should include an address and daytime telephone number so the content of the message can be verified. (Phone numbers will not be published.)

Send your comments:

— By mail to Your Opinion, *The Valley Independent,* Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa. 15062.

— By e-mail to valley@tribweb.com

— By fax to (724) 684-2603.

All messages are subject to editing for clarification, brevity and libel. Messages should be kept to 300 words. (No poetry, please.)

While letters usually are published in order of submission, those concerning timely local issues are given priority.

Robert E. Lee was the genuine article

Charley **REESE**

Jan. 19 is the birthday of Robert E. Lee, a man we should all try to emulate. He was so nearly a perfect human being that it is hard for our modern minds to come to grips with him.

We have grown cynical. We've seen too often men who gain fame but lack virtue. We've seen too many flawed heroes marketed like soap. In contrast, Lee was the genuine article, the last of the Christian knights.

He went through West Point without a single demerit, was a hero of the Mexican War, and married and remained faithful to his wife even though she became an invalid at a young age.

When secession came, Lee was offered the command of the Union Army. What a temptation to a professional military man. Lee was opposed to secession, though he recognized the right of states to withdraw from the union. He agonized over the decision. He simply could not bring himself to lead an invading army to fight his family and friends in Virginia. He did the honorable thing and resigned his commission.

His fame earned during the tragic war was worldwide. Always at a disadvantage in numbers and equipment, he conducted brilliant campaigns. The New England historian Charles Francis Adams said: "My contention is Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia never sustained defeat. Finally, it is true, succumbing to exhaustion, to the end they were not overthrown in fight."

Gen. Ulysses S. Grant bristled when he heard the radical Republicans had indicted Lee for treason after the war, and he warned Washington, "I will resign the command of the Army rather than execute any order directing me to arrest Lee or any of his commanders so long as they obey the laws." The charge was dropped. Gen. Winfield Scott said, "Lee is the greatest military genius in America."

It was not his courage and military skills, however, that make him unique. To Lee, Christianity was not something to be flaunted, but a way of life. Fame didn't faze him. He remained humble. He never took credit for victories, ascribing them to God and to his men. There is no record of his ever uttering a vulgarity or speaking ill of the enemy. He is the only general I've ever heard of whose men loved him.

Unlike today's generals, so many of whom seek to become millionaires on a paltry record by making expensive speeches and accepting corporate directorships, Lee turned down all the offers of gifts and lucrative positions that flooded in after the war, including the offer of an estate in England. "I have enough and am content," he said in refusing one gift.

Instead, he accepted the post of president of what is now Washington and Lee University at a most modest salary. He told his young students there was only one rule: They were to act like Christian gentlemen.

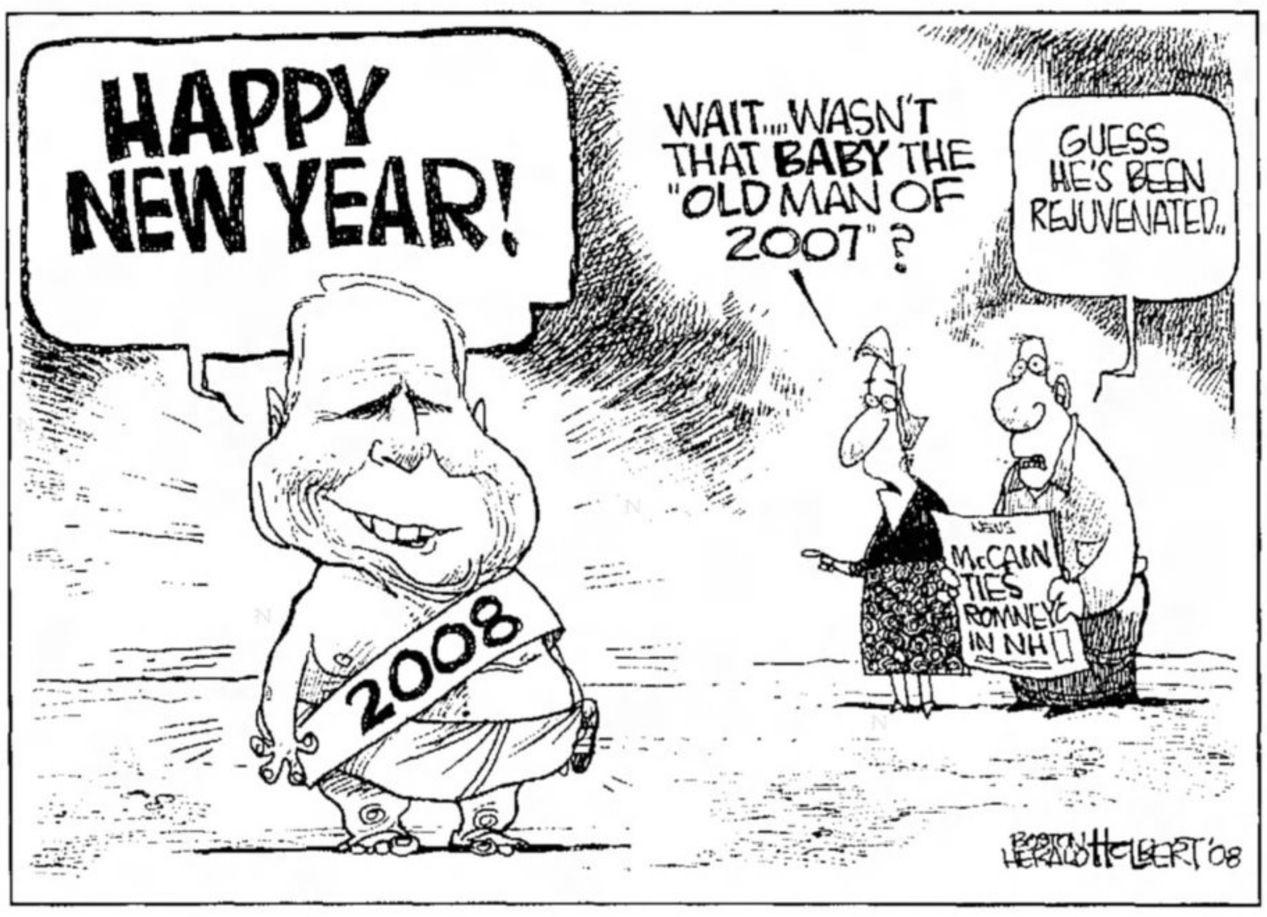
His letters to his children are full of advice to seek knowledge and virtue. "The more you know, the more you find there is to know in this grand and beautiful world. It is only the ignorant who suppose themselves omniscient," he wrote to one daughter.

"Gain knowledge and virtue and learn your duty to God and your neighbor. That is the great object of life," he said in another letter. "The first business of education is to draw forth and put into habitual exercise the former dispositions such as kindness, justice and self-denial."

Lee answered a request for an interview by a biographer, "I know of nothing good I could tell you of myself."

In today's me-first, egocentric world, that is hard to grasp, but Lee was indeed a genuinely humble man — and one of the greatest.

Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.



Iraq will remain an issue in 2008

William **RUSHER**

There is always much about the future that is obscure, but of one thing we can be reasonably certain: In 2008, the United States will be involved militarily in Iraq. It may be a largely peaceful involvement, centering on the military occupation of key areas, or it may have a major combat component, depending on the enemy's capability and intentions, but that America will be there, there is no doubt at all.

The occasional politician demanding prompt and total withdrawal from Iraq is simply fantasizing, and the Democrats know this, as well as the Republicans. Such a withdrawal would merely turn the whole region over to other nations and forces with their own fish to fry. Middle Eastern oil, which the United States itself could do without, is absolutely vital to our allies in Europe and elsewhere. For it to fall into the hands of Russia, or some consortium of regional powers, would alter the whole balance of global power overnight.

Similar considerations will dominate America's Middle Eastern policies not only in 2008 but thereafter — and quite regardless of whether (as seems likely) the Democrats take over the White House in 2009. A Democratic president would undoubtedly make a bigger display of deference to our allies, and perhaps modify this or that aspect of U.S. policy in the Mideast, but he or she would know very well that a U.S. presence in the Middle East is an indispensable factor in the diplomatic picture there.

What is harder to assess is whether U.S. involvement will continue to have a major military component. In 2008, the war there may well be winding down. Al Qaeda no longer has (if it ever had) the capability to be a centrally directed and militarily effective force. It may still occupy individual towns, and put to death hundreds or even thousands of civilian Iraqis. But U.S. forces effectively dominate the country, and will continue to do so.

Beyond 2008, however, the United States must make a major effort to shift the battle more decisively into a political context. As the military weakness of Al Qaeda becomes more apparent, the politicians in Baghdad must be pressed even more strongly to come to political terms among themselves. This has been said before, but the urgency increases daily.

A politician with disposable influence is important only as long as he retains the power to exert it. Once he commits himself to a policy, his relevance is automatically reduced. There is, therefore, on the part of Iraqi politicians a powerful inducement to remain uncommitted, on any subject, for as long as possible. This is natural enough, but must be recognized and resisted as strongly as Washington can manage. Only a political consensus in Iraq will create an atmosphere in which military success can be transformed into political tranquility.

So the odds are that we are in for a prolonged period of political bargaining among the Iraqis, with each faction trying to advantage itself in the distribution of the country's assets — notably including oil. Well, there are worse things than political bargaining — especially warfare. And if the United States can continue, in 2008, the gradual winddown of military operations that we have seen in 2007, we will be able to count the year as a success.

Politically, the Democrats have long since abandoned their earlier position, so neatly summarized last spring by Senator majority leader Harry Reid as, "The war is lost."

They know better now, and their rhetoric reflects it. They will continue to condemn it, but will not demand that it be ended — or end it themselves, if it comes to that.

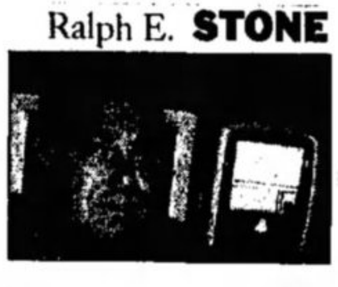
The Republicans, conversely, have dodged the worst bullet — responsibility for a lost war. The military campaign in Iraq continues, as one indispensable part of U.S. strategy in the Middle East. But the American people have never fully reconciled themselves to our involvement in Iraq, and the Republican party must shoulder responsibility for it.

William Rusher is a Distinguished Fellow of the Claremont Institute for the Study of Statesmanship and Political Philosophy.

Diary of a First Street Rambler

Exploding cans, flying cats keep gang busy

Ralph E. **STONE**



Thursday,
March 11, 1948
Dear Diary,

Besides baseball, basketball and football, there are other things that have been happening in Rambler territory, 'cause guys like Vince and Kenny Husher are always inventing new things to do.

Like just a couple of weeks ago, a bunch of us were playing back in the alley, when Kenny and Vince came with this white stuff called carbide.

I think they got it at the Monessen Hardware Store. I didn't even know what the heck carbide is, but I learned that when you add water to it and cover it up, pressure builds up till it bubbles up and explodes.

I was afraid to mess around with the stuff, but Kenny and Vince seemed to know what they were doing, so I just watched. At first, they were putting it in small tin cans and waiting for it to fizz up and pop, but then Vince got the idea to put the rest into this big five-gallon can and have a really big explosion. They poured the rest of the carbide into the can and then added water and put a lid over it. We all backed way up so we could watch it and not get blasted ourselves.

Well, guess what happened? The pressure in that can was really building up and just then this cop named Officer Nacaroto, comes walking up the alley. We were far enough away that he didn't see us, but we could see him.

He heard the noise in that can and was coming up to it when it exploded and that white carbide juice went all over him and his police uniform.

We took off running all the way up to McKee Avenue. Man, I'll bet if he'da caught us he'd have put us in jail and thrown the key away!

That's the crazy kind of stuff Vince and Kenny are always getting into. Another thing they did once was make this cat parachute. I wasn't there that time, but they told me about it.

They had these two big red bandana handkerchiefs that were sewed together. I think Kenny's Mom sewed them, but anyway, they got this stray alley cat and carried him up the back steps of the Santora Brothers Paint Store.

They went all the way up to the third floor 'cause Vince wanted to see if that handkerchief could open like a parachute with a small cat in it. Kenny said, "I bettcha' it will."

When they got up to the third floor, they put the cat inside the bandanas and tied it together. Then they dropped the poor cat over the porch banister. Darned if that big red hankie didn't open up like a parachute, but by the time it landed that cat was so scared, it jumped out and went running away down the alley! I bet it didn't want to have any more to do with Vince and Kenny. That fall probably used up over half of its nine lives!

Author's Notes:

I was very wary of the carbide. Vince and Kenny were much more daring. To this very day, I am still quite cautious when it comes to any type of explosives. During our Fourth of July celebrations, even the tiniest of firecrackers have me playing on the safe side. My Mom's constant warnings of losing eyes, fingers or toes must have had a lasting impression on me.

Officer Nacaroto never did find out where the exploding can came from, but I imagine he had an unexpected cleaning bill for his uniform.

The Santora Bros. building was on Schoonmaker Avenue, next to the spot where One Arm John lived with his horse, Bandit. The three-storied building had a stairwell which could be reached from the alleyway behind Schoonmaker.

The nameless kitty lived on to warn his alley friends to stay away from Ken and Vince!

I hope all my readers had a joyous holiday season; I certainly did.

One of my favorite gifts from my wife, Marilynne, was the complete set of Johnny Weissmuller Tarzan movies on DVD. I spent several hours reliving those exciting days from my childhood with Tarzan, Jane, Boy and Cheeta!

Next Week: A new Sunday school class and Hornet hockey.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

Here's a rundown on activities scheduled at local senior centers for the week starting Monday:

BROWNSVILLE

Monday – 10:30, games and socializing; 12:30, bingo.

Tuesday – 10, ceramics; 10:30, skat and socializing; 1, bingo.

Wednesday – 10:30, games and socializing; 11:15, sit 'n fit; 11:45, wild pill drawing and lucky five drawing; 1, bowling and bingo.

Thursday – 10:30, skat and socializing; 12:30, cards and bingo.

Friday – 10, skat, pokeno and socializing; 1, bingo.

CENTER IN THE WOODS

Monday – 7:30, walking; 9, massage, beauty shop; 10, watercolor guild; 11:15, German choir "Christmas Delight," 1, German Club, bridge/500, choir practice; 2, Zumba Gold.

Tuesday – 7:30, walking; 9, beauty shop, Silver Sneakers; 11, Health Steps in Motion (PEPPI); 1, bingo, brige/500, dart ball, news and views.

Wednesday – Travel Friends trip to Wheeling Islands; 7:30, walking; 9, beauty shop; 10:30, Bible study; 1, bridge/500; 3, basket guild.

Thursday – 7:30, walking; 9, beauty shop, Silver Sneakers; 9:30, Advisory Board; 11, blood pressures, PEPPI; 1, bridge/500, bingo, advanced strings jam.

Friday – 7:30, walking club; 9, massage, beauty shop; 1, dart ball, Bible study.

CENTER ON THE HILL

Monday – 10:30, blood pressures, bingo; 11, canasta; 12:45, euchre; 6:30, evening pinochle.

Tuesday – 9:30, video exercise; 10:30, bingo; 11, crafts; 2, massages; 7, evening euchre.

Wednesday – jam session luncheon party, 10:30, bingo, Bible study.

Thursday – 8, beauty shop; 9:30, video exercise; 10:30, bingo; 11, writing life stories; 11:30, Belle Vernon Goldenagers meeting; 1:30, LCR Nickel Dice.

Friday – 8, beauty shop; 10:30, bingo.

RIVERSIDE PLACE (CHARLEROI)

Monday – 10, arthritis exercise; 11, blood pressures; 11:30, daily bingo; 1, darts.

Tuesday – 10, computer class; 11, blood pressures; 11:30, daily bingo; 2, Corning Glass Retirees meeting.

Wednesday – 11, "Hospice 101"-Southcare Hospice; 11:30, daily bingo, 1, big bingo; 2, massages.

Thursday – 10, arthritis exercise group; 11:30, daily bingo.

Friday – 8, fried dough; 10, computer class; 11:30, daily bingo; 12:30, euchre club; 1, Silver Sneakers.

DONORA

Monday – 9, walking; 10, advanced line dancing; 11:45, bonus bingo; 1:30, bingo.

Tuesday – 9, walking; 10, blood pressures, exercise class; 11:45, bonus bingo; 1, card club, cards and pokeno.

Wednesday – 9, hairdresser, walking; 10, beginner's line dancing; 11:45, bonus bingo; 1:30, bingo.

Thursday – 9, hairdresser, walking; 10, fitness class; 11:45, bonus bingo; 1, cards and pokeno; 1:30, AARP.

Friday – 9, hairdresser, walking; 10, blood pressures; 11:45, bonus bingo; 1, cards and pokeno.

MONESSEN

Monday – 1, bingo; card games-"65"/rummy/dominoes.

Tuesday – 10, crochet class; 1:45, sit 'n fit; card games, "65"/rummydominoes.

Wednesday – 10:30, Bible study with Jim; 12:30, bridge club; card games-"65"rummy/dominoes.

Thursday – Wheeling Downs; 10, "Lungs at Work"-free lung testing by UMWA; 11:45, sit 'n fit; card games-"65"/rummy/dominoes.

Friday – card games-"65"/rummy/dominoes; dominoes (Mexican Train) morning and afternoon.

MONONGAHELA

Monday 11:30, magic bingo; 1, cards.

Tuesday – 9, craft class; beauty shop by appointment; 11:30, magic bingo; 1, cards, darts.

Wednesday – 10:45, dominos; 11:30, magic bingo, devotional; hairdresser by appointment; exercise group after lunch; 1, cards.

Thursday – 11:30, magic bingo; 1, cards; beauty shop by appointment; 7, evening social.

Friday – beauty shop by appointment; 11:30, magic bingo; 1, cards; 1:30, line dancing with Frieda.

PERRYOPOLIS

Monday – 8, walking; 9, poker club, card club; 10, PEPPI exercises; 1, cards and table games, pickin 'n grinning; jigsaw puzzle assembly morning and afternoon.

Tuesday – 8, walking; 10, pinochle, sing-along; 1, pickin' 'n grinning; jig saw puzzle assembling morning and afternoon.

Wednesday – 8, walking; 9, big bingo; 9:30, bingo; jigsaw puzzle assembly morning and afternoon; 11:15, "Hold on to your Marbles"-PrimeTime Health; 2, jam session.

Thursday – 8, beauty shop, walking; 9, ceramics; 10, PEPPI exercise; jigsaw puzzle assembly morning and afternoon.

Friday – 8, beauty shop, walking, 9, bingo, 9:30, bingo; 10, craft of your choice jigsaw puzzle assembly morning and afternoon.

SENIOR CENTER LUNCH MENUS

Here's a look at lunch menus for local senior citizen centers for the week starting Monday:

Center in the Woods, Center on the Hill, Charleroi, Donora, Monongahela and Perryopolis

Monday – macaroni and cheese
Tuesday – baked chicken
Wednesday – baked ham sandwich
Thursday – meatloaf
Friday – fish and chips

Monessen and West Newton

Monday – chili con carne
Tuesday – turkey
Wednesday – pizza slice
Thursday – roast beef
Friday – veal patty

When you come home ...

When submitting Valley on Vacation photographs, please list the community of your residence and the communities of residence of everyone featured in your vacation photograph. In addition, print your telephone number on the back of the photograph, just in case we have any questions.

Retirement ain't what it used to be

By COLLEEN LONG
Associated Press Writer

The story goes like this: A couple in their early sixties scrimped and saved, and retired to their dream home in France. But eight months after they arrived at their chateau, the couple was miserable.

They missed their friends and clubs back home. They missed working, and lounging around all day was costlier than they expected. So they moved back to their old lives.

The moral of the story: Retirement ain't what it used to be.

Fact is, we're living longer and healthier lives, and the cost of living is increasing exponentially. That means we're going to have more time to spend money, and less money to spend.

Years ago, jobs were more physically demanding. By the time you hit 65, you were exhausted and the prospect of leisure seemed novel. Nowadays, jobs are more sedentary, and people are increasingly admitting that a 24-7 vacation-style life isn't all it's cracked up to be. In fact, it can get downright boring.

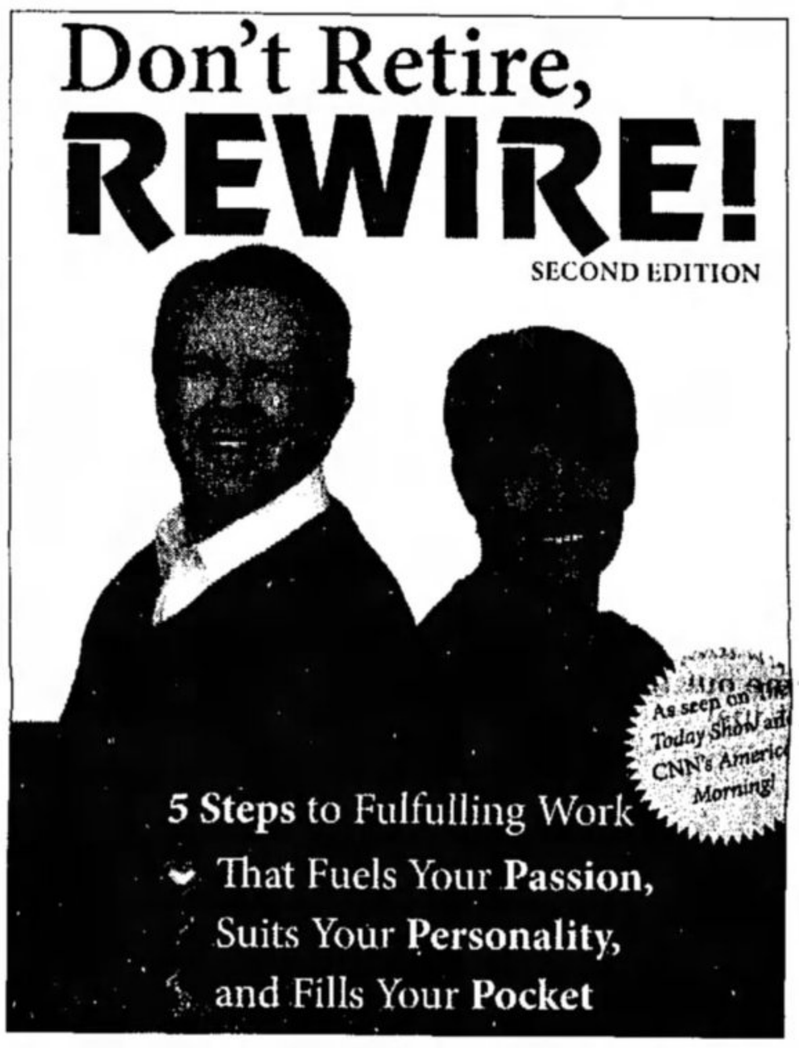
According to an AARP survey, at least 80 percent of Baby Boomers expect to continue working past the age of 65, and half of retirees say they're worried about running out of money.

Jeri Sedlar, co-author of "Don't Retire, Rewire!" says these changes in society mean we have to start looking at retirement in a different way.

"I know you're working hard and smart, but you've got to lift your head up and see how much longer people are living, and staying engaged in life, and think about what you want from your future," she said.

Society is slowly changing how it views retirees. Companies are increasingly hiring older workers, Sedlar says, especially in fields where there is a skills shortage like nursing and teaching. There are even Web sites like retirementjobs.com, encore.com and civicventures.com where companies post openings geared specifically for retirees.

"Nonprofits as well as the private and public sector are increasingly looking to recruit and retain 'mature' workers," Sedlar says. "They realize the value they're getting."



Associated Press
This undated photo provided by Alpha Books shows the cover of "Don't Retire, REWIRE!" by Jeri Sedlar and Rick Miners.

It's Not Too Early to Consider an Experience That Could Change Your Life

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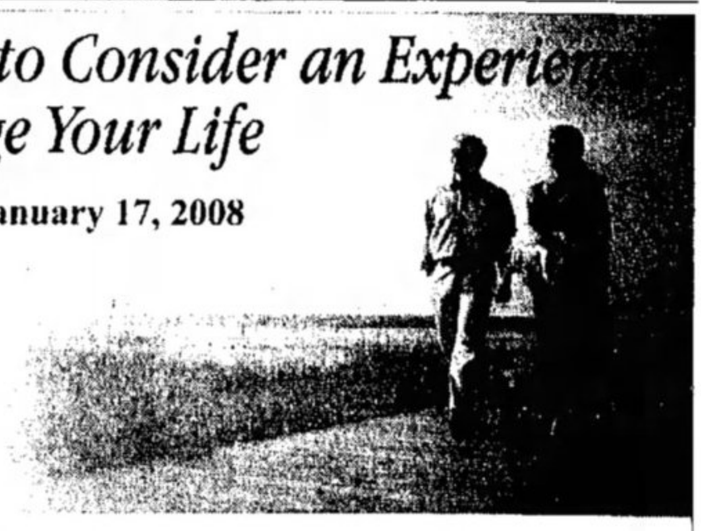

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Orange sweet for Kansas

The Jayhawks built an early lead Thursday, then held off Virginia Tech for an Orange Bowl victory. **2B**

Valley SPORTS

Project of the Week

Curio cabinets bring classic appeal to any home. **6B**

Still perfect

The Lady Greyhounds blew out Avella, 70-35, Thursday to improve to 14-0 on the season. **2B**

Sports Trivia

Monessen's Jamie Reader was a teammate of which Pittsburgh Steeler in the 1998 Hula Bowl? **2B**

Last night's scores

Boston 2, Washington 0
Florida 4, N.Y. Islanders 3, OT
Montreal 6, Tampa Bay 3
Pittsburgh 6, Toronto 2
Minnesota 6, Dallas 3
Nashville 5, Edmonton 2

Hounds-Prexies showdown tonight

SPORTS

Monessen, Ringgold girls win big

Lady Greyhounds stay perfect with 35-point victory at Avella.

Monessen and Ringgold continue to be the area's hottest high school girls' basketball teams.

With Kelly Mornak (23) and Christina Chukwuedo (19) combining for 42 points, Monessen stayed unbeaten with a 70-35 romp at Avella in Class A Section 3.

Jessica Beveridge came off the bench to add 15 points for the Lady Greyhounds (14-0, 5-0), who are off until a home game Thursday with Serra.

Ringgold upped its winning streak to eight with a 63-30 rout at McGuffey in Class AAA Section 4.

Alina Selby and Emily Schartner both scored 18 points for the Lady Rams (9-2, 3-0), who led 39-18 at halftime. Selby also had 11 rebounds.

Ringgold hosts Belle Vernon Area Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

Belle Vernon Area dropped a misleading 57-38 decision to visiting Thomas Jefferson in Class AAA Section 5.

The Lady Leps (3-8, 0-3) trailed only 35-33 going into the fourth quarter before getting outscored 22-5.

Jocelyn Connolly led BVA with 14 points while Kristen Veseleny had a game-high 20 points for the Lady Jaguars (6-7, 3-0).

In other Class AAA Section 5 games, Elizabeth Forward dropped Steel Valley, 56-35, and Yough lost to West Mifflin, 69-34.

Paige Pearce (15) and Cassy Sandeson (110 combined for 26 point for Elizabeth (10-2, 2-1).

The Lady Warriors host Canon-McMillan Saturday at 1 p.m.

Allison Saccani had 12 points in Yough's loss.

Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

Jocelyn Connolly scored 14 points Thursday in BVA's loss to Thomas Jefferson.

California took a 31-20 lead into the fourth quarter at Mapletown before going cold and losing 43-39 in Class A Section 2.

Christina Wagner (15) and Morgan Moluski (14) were high for the Lady Trojans (3-8, 1-2), who host Frazier today.

Bentworth was a 60-31 loser to unbeaten Washington in Class AA Section 5.

Jocelyn Floyd topped the Lady Prexies (12-0, 5-0) with Amanda Kennedy looking best for Bentworth (7-6, 2-3) with 14 points.

BVA (FROM PAGE ONE)

team-high 15 rebounds, left the game with an ankle injury with two minutes remaining in the overtime.

TJ wasted a strong performance from sophomore Jim Giansante, who scored a game-high 21 points with 19 in the final 20 minutes including five in the overtime.

The contest also featured some controversy when the Jaguars' Dean Langholtz, who had 14 points, fouled out with 2:52 remaining in regulation time 20 seconds after giving TJ a 52-48 lead.

Langholtz, who was hit with a technical foul late in the third quarter following a foul by teammate Brian Scott, had only four fouls in the TJ book.

The regulation game ended in the final second when Dudzinski was called for traveling in the last second when he was fouled driving to the basket.

LEFTOVERS: Cory Williams and John Naylor added 14 and 10 points for the Leps. Williams stole the inbounds pass with three seconds left in OT to preserve the win ... The Leps have lost their top reserve, sophomore Tyber Lustig, for the remainder of the season with a broken ligament in his hand ... Injuries sidelined the DeCicco brothers with Nix playing in the Army All-American Bowl Saturday in San Antonio, Texas. The Leps are off until Tuesday when they host Elizabeth Forward.

Penguins (FROM PAGE ONE)

"Momentum is a funny thing and they capitalized on it," Maple Leafs goalie Scott Clemmensen said. "They got us back on our heels and before we could take a breath, they knocked three quick ones in on us."

Rookie Tyler Kennedy started the Penguins' four-goal flurry in the third by scoring 3 minutes in, making it 3-1 after Jordan Staal gained control of the puck along the boards and set him up.

Malkin scored again 37 seconds later and, after the Penguins won the ensuing faceoff, Sykora scored his first goal since Dec. 11, causing Toronto coach Paul Maurice to call a timeout.

"An outburst like that shouldn't happen," defenseman Hal Gill said. "We should get fired up after they score a goal and go back at it, but that didn't happen. We were controlling the tempo but then we slacked off and they got comfortable and they got the momentum."

Malkin made it 2-1 with about 5 1/2 minutes remaining in the second period, setting up down low and scoring off Crosby's pass from the high slot. Eric Christensen had scored the tying goal, his sixth, on a wraparound in the opening 90 seconds of the period.

Malkin looked as though he might miss getting the hat trick when he whiffed from the side of the net during a Penguins power play late in the third. But shortly after that he scored his 18th goal of the season — celebrating by waving his arms, yelling and skating with a flourish behind the net.

"He's been close a few times and he really loves to score goals and it's great to see him that happy and finally get that," Crosby said.

Charleroi blasts Chartiers-Houston

Makayla Neff scores 18 as Lady Cougars end losing skid.

By BILL HUGHES
For The Valley Independent

NORTH CHARLEROI — Talk about a much-needed win.

Having lost its last four contests, Charleroi halted its skid Thursday against Chartiers Houston in a Class AA Section 5 contest, 56-26.

"We needed a win bad," coach Nick Mahalko said. "The kids' effort tonight was great."

With the win, Charleroi ended the Lady Bucs' four-game winning streak and stayed tied for third place in the section with Beth-Center.

Makayla Neff (18 points), Aly Lee (11) and Brittany Collins (11) combined for 40 points for Charleroi (6-7, 3-2).

Collins' total was a career-high while Neff (six) and Jessica Sidary (five) combined for 11 steals.

"Brittany played outstanding and Jessica gave us some good minutes," Mahalko said.

Charleroi forced 33 turnovers in the contest and did not allow the Lady Bucs (4-9, 1-4) a basket until Chelsea Morton hit a shot with 0:41 left in the first quarter.

Chartiers stayed in the contest until midway in the second quarter thanks to hitting eight of 14 free throws.

Charleroi visits unbeaten Washington Monday.

SPORTS DIGEST

Earlier start for Ringgold games

The starting times for Saturday's basketball doubleheader at Ringgold have been moved up because of the Pittsburgh Steelers' playoff game with Jacksonville.

The Ringgold girls will face Belle Vernon Area at 1:30 p.m. with Ringgold's boys taking on Baldwin at 4:30 p.m.

Thunder move up game with Wooster

Add the Mon Valley Thunder to the teams who won't be going up against the Pittsburgh Steelers' 8 p.m. playoff game Saturday with Jacksonville.

The Thunder have moved up the starting time of Saturday's Mid-Atlantic Hockey League contest at the Ice Garden against Wooster from 7:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Meanwhile, the Thunder's Dustin McDonald was honored as the goaltender of the week following weekend wins over Wooster.

BVA swimmers lose to South Park

Belle Vernon Area High's swimmers lost to South Park Thursday.

The Leps dropped a 93-86 decision with the Lady Leps bowing 103-78.'

Taking firsts for the Leps were Brendan Lacey (200 and 500 freestyle), Zachary Wardle (200 individual medley and 100 freestyle), Andre Maldonado (50 freestyle), Aaron Mikula (100 fly), the 200 freestyle relay team of Maldonado, Mikula, Lacey and Wardle and the 400 freestyle relay team of Maldonado, Jay Lewis, Lacey and Wardle.

Winning for the Lady Leps were Sydney Rusak (50 freestyle) and the 400 freestyle relay team of Rusak, Ashley Bronakowski, Courtnee Basista and Mary Wardle.

BVA wrestlers lose to Connellsville

Belle Vernon Area High's wrestlers jumped out to a 13-0 lead at Connellsville Thursday in Class AAA Section 2.

It wasn't an indication of things to come. Connellsville went on to win 41-19.

Staking the Leps to their early lead were Donnie Tasser (152) with a 19-5 major decision over Slade Harvey, Jacob Boyer (160) with a second period pin over Jordan McKnight and P.J. Tasser (171) with a 4-3 decision over Nathan Gaffney.

Jeremy Weslager took a decision for the Leps' other points.

Cal cagers down Laurel Highlands

California Middle School's basketball team upped its record to 9-0 with a 44-34 win over Laurel Highlands with Brian Fisher (15) and Tanner Huffman (11) combining for 26 points.

Clemens maintains drug denials

NEW YORK (AP) — Roger Clemens said former trainer Brian McNamee injected him with the painkiller lidocaine and the vitamin B-12 — not any performance-enhancing drugs.

In the first excerpts released from the pitcher's interview with CBS's "60 Minutes," which is to be broadcast Sunday night, Clemens maintained the denials he has issued since McNamee implicated him in the Mitchell report on doping in baseball, which was released Dec. 13.

Patriots' Belichick NFL Coach of Year

NEW YORK (AP) — New England's undefeated season now includes yet another achievement: Bill Belichick is The Associated Press 2007 NFL Coach of the Year.

The first coach since Don Shula in 1972 to lead his team through a spotless regular season, Belichick won the award for the second time in four years.

Trivia answer

Charlie Batch.

SPORTS HISTORY

30 Years Ago

George Bandalo scored 24 points in Ringgold's 90-66 win over Laurel Highlands.

Julius Dawkins had 21 points and 16 rebounds in Monessen's 65-59 victory over Connellsville.

Belle Vernon Area downed Yough, 78-57, behind Tom Parks' 25 points.

John Weldon came off the bench to score 18 points in Mon Valley Catholic's 42-26 win over Fairchance-Georges.

A last-minute basket by Dennis Stitch gave Charleroi a 62-60 win over Thomas Jefferson.

20 Years Ago

T.J. Capone scored six goals in Belle Vernon Area's 9-7 hockey win over Ringgold at Rostraver Gardens.

Julie Claybaugh poured in 26 points in Charleroi's 62-50 win at Brownsville.

Holli Martos had 24 points in Mon Valley Catholic's 79-29 romp over West Greene.

Nadine Turmer scored 22 points in Monessen's 56-48 loss to Mapletown.

Belle Vernon Area downed Uniontown, 50-31, behind Carmella Sumpter's 17 points.

Michelle Boyle had 10 points in Ringgold's 52-32 setback to McKeesport.

10 Years Ago

Monessen's Jamie Reader, a senior fullback at the University of Akron, was named to play for the North in the Hula Bowl in Hawaii.

Charleroi's Grillo can make history

Dave Grillo may or may not be the best wrestler in Charleroi High history.

A 189-pound senior, Grillo will become the Cougars' all-time winner with a victory tonight at Jeannette.

Grillo chalked up his 97th career victory Wednesday when he pinned Keystone Oaks' Garreaux Muckle in 3:18 in the Cougars' 50-19 defeat.

The win upped Grillo's season record to 10-3 for the season.

He tied the school record for wins shared by Derek Johnson and Vinnie Destefano, who graduated in 2005 and 2007, respectively.

Grillo won 28 matches as a freshman, 36 as a sophomore and 23 as a junior.

Charleroi's next two meets will be Saturday at home against Beth-Center at 3 p.m. and Wednesday at Derry Area.

If Grillo wins his next three matches to reach 100. he will be honored Wednesday, Jan. 16 at the Cougars' home match against South Allegheny.

Charleroi coach Gregg Doerfler isn't surprised by Grillo's success.

"He was this good when he was 10 years old," said Doerfler. "He just got bigger and better."

Faneca (FROM PAGE ONE)

His Steelers career isn't officially over, but he fully expects to be on the free agent market in March.

"I think if it (a new contract) was going to happen it would have happened," Faneca said. "The door is never closed, but there is a point where reality sets in."

Faneca won't speculate what he might be worth, even though offensive guards were given some of the biggest deals during last year's market. Cleveland's Eric Steinbach, San Diego's Kris Dielman and Buffalo's Derrick Dockery landed deals worth a combined $52.5 million in guaranteed money and $137 million overall.

The Steelers' offer to Faneca wasn't believed to be anywhere close to comparable money, even though his $25.6 million contract in 2002 helped set the standard for guards.

Based on last year's figures, Faneca could be offered $7 million a year or more in his next contract, or far more than the $4,375,000 he's making in salary and bonuses this season.

How good has Faneca been in Pittsburgh? He was the first guard in team history to make All-Pro in successive seasons, and the first to make the Pro Bowl twice since John Nisby in 1960 and 1962. Faneca has been chosen each of the last seven seasons.

"Ten years here kind of forces you to reflect," Faneca said. "It's a big chunk of my life."

Kansas wins Orange Bowl

MIAMI (AP) — It may be time for the Kansas Jayhawks to give up the underdog role they love.

The surprising Jayhawks exceeded expectations again Thursday night, racing to an early lead and hanging on to beat Virginia Tech 24-21 in the Orange Bowl.

No. 8 Kansas (12-1) won in its first Bowl Championship Series game to set a team record for victories. A year ago the Jayhawks went 6-6.

"People kept telling us we couldn't win against this team, that we couldn't win the big game, that we had no chance," quarterback Todd Reesing said. "We took that to heart. We like being underdogs."

Perhaps this season's biggest surprise, the high-scoring Jayhawks employed their usual assortment of tricks. They split their tackles wide alongside the receivers. They threw wrong-handed shovel passes. They pulled off a fake punt.

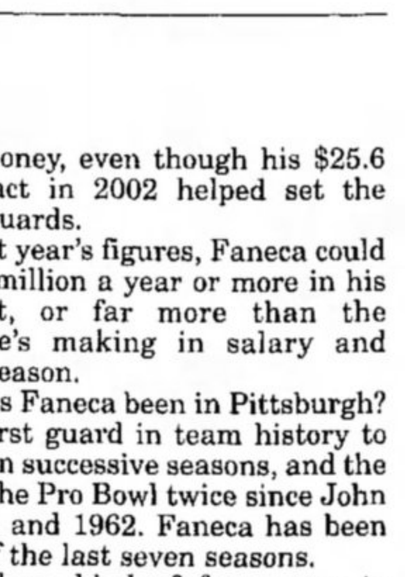
The biggest shocker: They won with defense.

While the offense was stymied most of the night, Kansas came up with three interceptions that led to 17 points, including All-American cornerback Aqib Talib's 60-yard return for the game's first score. He was chosen the game's most valuable player.

The victory answered critics who said the Jayhawks benefited from an easy schedule and were exposed by a loss to Missouri in the regular-season finale.

"I guess they got to say we played somebody now!" Talib said.

The No. 5 Hokies (11-3) lost their fourth consecutive BCS game. It was a bittersweet finish for the Hokies, who revived campus spirits this season following the April 16 massacre that left 33 students and professors dead.



Mark Mangino

SPORTS

High school boys' standings

Class AAA

	Sec. 4 W	Sec. 4 L	Overall W	Overall L
Chartiers Valley	2	0	11	1
Keystone Oaks	2	0	6	6
South Park	1	1	4	8
Ringgold	1	1	4	10
McGuffey	0	2	3	7
Trinity	0	2	1	9

Thursday

Chartiers Valley 63, Brentwood 42

Today

Ringgold at McGuffey
South Park at Keystone Oaks
Trinity at Chartiers Valley

Saturday

Baldwin at Ringgold (4:30 p.m.)
Bethel Park at Chartiers Valley (2:30 p.m.)

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
Yough	2	0	6	6
Belle Vernon Area	2	1	9	4
Steel Valley	1	1	8	2
West Mifflin	1	1	5	6
Thomas Jefferson	1	2	2	8
Elizabeth Forward	0	2	2	10

Thursday

Belle Vernon Area 66, T Jefferson 64

Today

Steel Valley at Elizabeth Forward
West Mifflin at Yough

Class AA

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
Washington	5	0	11	3
Monessen	5	0	10	4
Burgettstown	3	2	8	3
Brownsville	3	2	7	5
C-Houston	2	3	7	6
Charleroi	2	3	6	7
Beth-Center	0	5	3	8
Waynesburg	0	5	2	9

Today

Washington at Monessen
Burgettstown at Charleroi
Brownsville at Beth-Center
Waynesburg at Chartiers-Houston

Class A

	Sec. 2 W	Sec. 2 L	Overall W	Overall L
California	2	0	7	5
Geibel	1	0	2	7
Carmichaels	1	1	6	3
Jeff-Morgan	1	1	4	8
Mapletown	0	1	5	4
West Greene	0	2	1	8

Today

California at Mapletown
Geibel at West Greene
Jeff-Morgan at Carmichaels

Saturday

Jeff-Morgan at Burgettstown

	Sec. 3 W	Sec. 3 L	Overall W	Overall L
Serra	2	0	8	1
Bentworth	3	1	8	3
Sacred Heart	3	2	4	9
Clairton	2	2	4	6
Cornell	2	2	7	5
Avella	1	3	4	7
Frazier	0	3	1	9

Today

Avella at Bentworth
Frazier at Clairton
Serra at Cornell

Saturday

Avella at Serra

High school girls' standings

Class AAA

	Sec. 4 W	Sec. 4 L	Overall W	Overall L
Ringgold	3	0	9	2
West Allegheny	2	1	7	6
Chartiers Valley	1	1	6	6
McGuffey	1	2	6	6
Keystone Oaks	1	2	4	7
Waynesburg	0	2	3	8

Thursday

Ringgold 63, McGuffey 30
West Allegheny 43, Keystone Oaks 38

Today

Waynesburg at Chartiers Valley

Saturday

Belle Vernon Area at Ringgold (1:30 p.m.)

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
West Mifflin	3	0	10	3
Thomas Jefferson	3	0	6	7
Elizabeth Forward	2	1	10	2
Steel Valley	1	2	7	4
Yough	0	3	6	8
Belle Vernon Area	0	3	3	8

Thursday

Thomas Jefferson 57, Belle Vernon Area 38
Elizabeth Forward 56, Steel Valley 35
West Mifflin 69, Yough 34

Today

Thomas Jefferson at South Fayette

Saturday

Canon-McMillan at Elizabeth Forward (1 p.m.)
Bethel Park at West Mifflin (1 p.m.)

Class AA

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
Washington	5	0	12	0
Brownsville	4	2	11	3
Beth-Center	3	2	8	4
Charleroi	3	2	6	7
Bentworth	2	3	7	6
C-Houston	1	4	4	9
Burgettstown	0	5	2	13

Thursday

Charleroi 56, C-Houston 26
Washington 60, Bentworth 31
Brownsville 53, Burgettstown 51

Class A

	Sec. 2 W	Sec. 2 L	Overall W	Overall L
Geibel	3	0	7	5
Carmichaels	3	0	5	7
Mapletown	1	2	7	4
California	1	2	3	8
West Greene	1	2	1	11
Jeff-Morgan	0	3	1	11

Thursday

Mapletown 43, California 39
Geibel 71, West Greene 30
Carmichaels 68, Jeff-Morgan 38

Today

Frazier at California

Saturday

Frazier at Trinity Christiani

	Sec. 3 W	Sec. 3 L	Overall W	Overall L
Monessen	5	0	14	0
Clairton	3	1	5	4
Serra	2	1	6	3
Avella 1	2	5	6	
Frazier	0	3	0	12
Trinity Christian	0	4	3	9

Thursday

Monessen 70, Avella 35
Serra 86, Trinity Christian 27

Rasheed Wallace and the Detroit Pistons will face the Raptors at 7 p.m. on ESPN.

Sports dial

Today

Television

6 p.m. - Golf Channel - Mercedes-Benz Championship, golf.

7 p.m. - ESPN - Detroit at Toronto, pro basketball.

7 p.m. - ESPN2 - Skills Challenge, high school football.

9 p.m. - ESPN2 - Allan Green vs Rubin Williams, boxing.

9:30 p.m. - ESPN - Miami at Dallas, pro basketball.

11 p.m. - SHO - Antonio Mesquita vs Lamont Peterson; Anthony Peterson vs Guadalupe Rosales, boxing.

Radio

7:30 p.m. - WJPA (1450) - Washington at Monessen, high school basketball.

NHL standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	22	14	3	47	95	93
Pittsburgh	22	16	2	46	117	114
N.Y. Rangers	20	17	4	44	100	101
N.Y. Islanders	20	16	3	43	97	108
Philadelphia	19	14	4	42	115	105

Northeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	25	10	4	54	139	110
Montreal	20	13	7	47	122	112
Boston	20	16	4	44	104	105
Buffalo	19	16	3	41	115	107
Toronto	16	17	8	40	118	133

Southeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	20	18	4	44	130	137
Atlanta	20	20	1	41	116	136
Florida	19	19	3	41	104	112
Washington	16	20	5	37	112	127
Tampa Bay	15	22	4	34	118	140

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	30	8	3	63	145	89
Columbus	19	16	6	44	103	99
St. Louis	19	14	5	43	96	99
Chicago	19	17	3	41	116	117
Nashville	19	18	2	40	108	116

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	23	14	4	50	108	93
Calgary	21	14	7	49	123	122
Minnesota	23	15	2	48	109	110
Colorado	21	16	3	45	117	117
Edmonton	17	21	4	38	108	129

Pacific Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	23	15	4	50	126	110
San Jose	22	12	6	50	102	92
Anaheim	20	17	5	45	103	113
Phoenix	20	18	1	41	103	105
Los Angeles	15	25	2	32	119	137

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.

Thursday's Games

Boston 2, Washington 0
Florida 4, N.Y. Islanders 3, OT
Montreal 6, Tampa Bay 3
Pittsburgh 6, Toronto 2
Minnesota 6, Dallas 3
Nashville 5, Edmonton 2
Phoenix 4, Chicago 2
Vancouver 3, N.Y. Rangers 0
Calgary 3, San Jose 2, OT
Columbus 4, Los Angeles 3

Today's Games

Philadelphia at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Washington at Montreal, 12:30 p.m.
Detroit at Dallas, 2 p.m.
Florida at Pittsburgh, 3 p.m.
New Jersey at Boston, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Carolina at St. Louis, 8:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Colorado, 9 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Edmonton, 10 p.m.
Columbus at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Calgary at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Penguins summary

Maple Leafs	1	0	1	— 2
Pittsburgh	0	2	4	— 6

First Period—1, Toronto, Blake 7 (Sundin, Steen), 10:34. Penalties—Kennedy, Pit (slashing), 7:51; Sykora, Pit (hooking), 11:21; Kubina, Tor (tripping), 16:41; Bell, Tor (roughing), 16:41; Armstrong, Pit (roughing), 16:41.

Second Period–2, Pittsburgh, Christensen 6 (Sykora, Ruutu), 1:24. 3, Pittsburgh, Malkin 16 (Crosby, Armstrong), 14:22. Penalties—Stajan, Tor (hooking), 6:33; Tucker, Tor, minor-major (fighting), 9:33; Ruutu, Pit, major (fighting), 9:33; Sydor, Pit (high-sticking), 18:53.

Third Period—4, Pittsburgh, Kennedy 7 (Staal, Gonchar), 3:00. 5, Pittsburgh, Malkin 17 (Crosby, Letang), 3:37. 6, Pittsburgh, Sykora 12 (Ruutu, Orpik), 3:48. 7, Toronto, Blake 8 (Kubina, Sundin), 12:53 (pp). 8, Pittsburgh, Malkin 18 (Whitney, Gonchar), 15:28 (pp). Penalties—Staal, Pit (high-sticking), 5:09; Bell, Tor, minor-major (fighting), 5:42; Malone, Pit, major (fighting), 5:42; Gonchar, Pit (hooking), 12:18; Kaberle, Tor (interference), 14:05; Wozniewski, Tor, double minor (high-sticking), 16:38.

Shots on Goal—Toronto 11-9-15—35. Pittsburgh 4-11-9—24.

Power-play opportunities—Toronto 1 of 5; Pittsburgh 1 of 5.

Goalies—Toronto, Clemmensen 1-1-0 (24 shots-18 saves). Pittsburgh, Conklin 6-0-0 (35-33).

High school basketball lineups

BOYS

Belle Vernon Area - 66

B. Lustig, 3-0-8; Pohlot, 7-3-17; Cory-Williams, 4-4-14; Naylor, 2-5-10; Dudzinski, 6-5-17; Green, 0-0-0; Cieply, 0-0-0. Totals: FG - 22, F - 17 (29), T - 66.

Thomas Jefferson - 64

Licht, 4-1-10; Langholtz, 6-2-14; Wildman, 0-0-0; Giansante, 10-0-21; Boal, 5-0-10; Scott, 4-1-9; Hassis, 0-0-0; Fagen, 0-0-0. Totals; FG - 29, F - 4 (12), T - 64.

Score by quarters:

T. Jefferson	16	6	18	14	10 - 64
BV Area	7	12	23	12	12 - 66

Three-pointers: BVA - Lustig 2, Willims 2, Naylor. TJ - Licht, Giansante.

Girls

Monessen - 70

Chukwuedo, 8-3-19; Minardi, 1-0-2; Mornak, 11-0-23; Stepoll, 0-0-0; Popovich, 0-0-0; Beveridge, 6-0-15; Diggs, 5-0-10; Turner, 0-1-1; Hall, 0-0-0. Totals:FG - 31, F - 4 (14), T - 70.

Avella - 35

Ferguson, 3-1-7; Quader, 1-1-3; Yamber, 2-3-7; Ritchey, 1-0-2; Papa, 3-4-10; Barr, 1-2-4; Temple, 1-0-2. Totals: FG - 12, F - 11 (21), T - 35.

Score by quarters:

Monessen	23	12	19	14	- 70
Avella	5	9	12	9	- 35

Three-pointers: Monessen - Beveridge 3, Mornak.

Ringgold - 63

Selby, 7-4-18; Schartner, 3-11-18; Affinito, 1-5-7; Resanovich, 1-0-2; Leach, 2-4-8; Melzer, 2-0-4; Pantojas, 0-1-1; Sivcek, 1-1-3; Lawrence, 1-0-2. Totals: FG - 18, F - 26 (42), T - 63.

McGuffey - 30

Sismondo, 1-4-6; Czulewicz, 0-1-1; Thornburtg, 1-3-5; Wickman, 1-0-2; Shober, 3-3-9; Pattison, 1-0-2; Dellere, 0-2-2; Yonish, 1-1-3. Totals: FG - 8, F -1 4 (26), T - 30.

Score by quarters:

Ringgold	21	18	10	14	- 63
McGuffey	9	9	6	6	-30

Three-pointers: Ringgold - Schartner.

Charleroi - 56

Lee, 5-1-11; Sidary, 3-0-6; Neff, 8-2-18; Samoda, 1-0-2; Shannon, 1-0-2; Collins, 4-0-11; Thorne, 2-0-4; Tarpley, 0-0-0; Mudrick, 0-0-0; Helster, 0-0-0; Iacovino, 0-2-2; Stehley, 0-0-0. Totals: FG - 24, F - 5 (12) T - 56.

Chartiers Houston - 26

Burgess, 0-2-2; K. Rosemier, 4-6; Denny, 3-2-8; Morton, 2-1-5; Philippi, 1-0-2; S. Rosemier, 1-1-3, 1-1-3. Totals: FG - 8 , F - 10 (18), T - 26.

Score by quarters:

C-Houston	4	12	8	2	- 26
Charleroi	11	14	11	20	- 56

Three-pointers: Charleroi - Collins 3.

Thomas Jefferson - 57

D'Allesandro, 2-2-6; Zogran, 2-5-10; Williams, 1-1-3; Veseleny, 6-6-20; Stoner, 3-6-12; Brickner, 1-0-2; Haeck, 0-1-1; Withens, 0-1-1. Totals; FG - 16, F - 22 (37), T - 57.

Belle Vernon Area - 38

Timko, 3-0-7; Connolly, 4-4-14; Watson, 1-4-6; Manko, 1-0-2; Manderino, 1-3-5; Anderson, 1-0-2; Goreckl, 1-0-2. Totals; FG - 12, F - 11 (14), T - 38.

Score by quarters:

T. Jefferson	10	11	14	22	- 57
BV Area	6	15	12	5	- 38

Three-pointers: BVA - Connolly 2, Timko. TJ - Veseleny 2, Zogran.

Washington - 60

Floyd, 9-0-18; Sargent, 6-0-12; Phillips, 5-2-14; Boardley, 1-0-2; Jackson, 2-0-5; Evans, 3-1-7; Jolly, 1-0-2. Totals: FG - 27, F - 3 (5), T - 60.

Bentworth - 31

Kennedy, 5-4-14; Speed, 1-2-5; Hamstra, 2-0-4; Robker, 2-0-5; Ritzer, 1-1-3. Totals: FG - 11, F - 7 (15), T - 60.

Score by quarters:

Washington	22	16	7	15	- 60
Bentworth	12	5	9	5	- 31

Three-pointers: Bentworth - Speed, Robker. Washington - Phillips 2, Jackson.

Mapletown - 43

Novak, 1-3-5; Stevulak, 2-0-4; Chory, 7-8-22; Shook, 3-4-10; Dickerson, 1-0-2. Totals; FG - 14, F - 15 (24), T - 43.

California - 39

Moluski, 6-0-14; Wagner, 5-5-15; Greenlief, 1-2-4; Doman, 1-0-2; Zajicek, 2-0-4. Totals: FG - 15, F - 7 (15), T - 39.

Score by quarters;

California	13	6	12	8	-39
Mapletown	8	8	4	23	- 43

Three-pointers: California - Moluski 2.

Wrestling

Waynesburg 49, Ringgold 15

103 - McGinnis, W; won by forfeit.

112 - Nelson, W; pinned Duda, 1:35.

119 - Remsing, W; dec. Arbes, 7-4.

125 - Headlee, W; major dec. over Mathles, 10-0.

130 - Knapp, W; pinned Watson, 3:39.

135 - B. Duda, R; pinned Thomas, 3:10.

140 - Camps, W; pinned Vivostak, 1:58.

145 - Teagardewn, W; dec. I. Mathies, 7-3.

152 - Calvert, W; pinned Tokar, 2:47.

160 - Rands, R; dec. Phillips, 8-2.

171 - Ellis, W; dec. Brown, 10-6.

189- Garcia, R; pinned Simpson, 1:54.

215 - Higginbotham, W; dec. Miller, 9-7.

Hvy - Butcher, W; dec. Johnston, 2-1.

Bowl glance

Thursday's Game

Orange Bowl

At Miami

Kansas 24, Virginia Tech 21

Saturday, Jan. 5

International Bowl

At Toronto

Payout: $750,000

Rutgers (7-4) vs. Ball State (7-5), Noon (ESPN2)

Sunday, Jan. 6

GMAC Bowl

Mobile, Ala.

Payout: $750,000

Tulsa (9-4) vs. Bowling Green (8-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Jan. 7

BCS National Championship

At [illegible]

Payout: $17 million

Ohio State (11-1) vs. LSU (11-2), 8 p.m. (FOX)

High school basketball scores

BOYS

Belle Vernon Area 66, Thomas Jefferson 64
Chartiers Valley 63, Brentwood 42
Franklin Regional 83, Gateway 72

GIRLS

Ambridge 57, Center 45
Avonworth 77, St. Joseph 67
Baldwin 70, Oliver 10
Beaver 85, Quaker Valley 53
Beaver Falls 49, Shenango 25
Canevin 45, Fort Cherry 22
Brownsville 53, Burgettstown 51
Burrell 60, Highlands 47
Carmichaels 68, Jefferson-Morgan 38
Charleroi 56, Chartiers-Houston 26
Derry Area 64, Franklin Regional 35
Elizabeth Forward 56, Steel Valley 35
Ford City 60, West Shamokin 28
Fox Chapel 56, Penn Hills 44
Gelbel 71, West Greene 30
Greensburg Central 65, Freeport 37
Greensburg Salem 57, Southmoreland 50
Hampton 51, Knoch 39
Hempfield 57, Connellsville 34
Hopewell 45, Blackhawk 42
Indiana 68, Valley 19
Jeannette 45, East Allegheny 41
Mapletown 43, California 39
Mars 68, Kittanning 28
Monessen 70, Avella 35
Montour 59, Ellwood City 56
Mt. Alvernia 59, Leechburg 26
Mt. Lebanon 52, Bethel Park 44
Mt. Pleasant 60, Laurel Highlands 52
Neshannock 33, Laurel 24
New Brighton 55, Mohawk 52
New Castle 58, Moon 48
North Catholic 53, Elderton 13
Northgate 55, Deer Lakes 39
Norwin 68, Albert Gallatin 32
Oakland Catholic 58, McKeesport 44
Sacred Heart 69, Aliquippa 9
Peters Township 62, Trinity 35
Quigley 65, Monaca 38
Ringgold 63, McGuffey 30
Riverside 71, South Side Beaver 53
Serra Catholic 86, Trinity Christian 27
Sewickley Academy 44, Cornell 35
Shady Side Academy 53, Riverview 29
South Allegheny 65, Wilkinsburg 61
South Fayette 27, Seton-La Salle 25
South Park 52, Brentwood 27
Springdale 50, Ellis School 21
Sto-Rox 44, Freedom 35
Thomas Jefferson 57, Belle Vernon Area 38
Union 69, Western Beaver 21
Uniontown 51, Penn-Trafford 28
Upper St. Clair 67, Canon-McMillan 45
Washington 60, Bentworth 31
West Allegheny 43, Keystone Oaks 38
West Mifflin 69, Yough 34

Mid-Atlantic Hockey League

	W	L	T	Pts
Indiana	19	1	0	38
Jamestown	9	11	0	18
Wooster	9	10	1	19
Mon Valley	6	11	3	15
Valley Forge	6	11	1	13

Today

Indiana at Jamestown
Valley Forge at Wooster

Saturday

Wooster at Mon Valley, 4:30 p.m.
Valley Forge at Jamestown

College basketball

MEN

EAST

Connecticut 98, Seton Hall 86
Mount St. Mary's, Md. 68, St. Francis, NY 60
New Hampshire 75, Albany, N.Y. 66
Niagara 74, Iona 67
Quinnipiac 74, St. Francis, Pa. 61
Robert Morris 59, Monmouth, N.J. 44
UMBC 76, Stony Brook 62
Vermont 71, Binghamton 60
Wagner 68, Cent. Connecticut St. 60

SOUTH

Appalachian St. 70, Coll. of Charleston 66
Austin Peay 90, Tenn.-Martin 85, OT
Belmont 87, Gardner-Webb 84
Chattanooga 85, Wofford 78
Davidson 92, Georgia Southern 67
Elon 72, The Citadel 63
Florida Gulf Coast 70, North Florida 67
Fresno St. 61, Louisiana Tech 44
Furman 64, W. Carolina 60
Jacksonville 98, Stetson 94, 3OT
Lipscomb 86, Campbell 79, OT
Louisiana-Lafayette 73, Arkansas St. 63
Memphis 102, Siena 58
Richmond 52, Virginia Tech 49
Samford 62, Tennessee Tech 59
Tennessee St. 59, Morehead St. 53
Troy 91, North Texas 88, OT
Vanderbilt 76, Rice 58

MIDWEST

Cleveland St. 63, Loyola of Chicago 55
DePaul 84, Villanova 76
E. Illinois 83, Murray St. 80, OT
IUPUI 77, UMKC 72
Marquette 96, Providence 67
N. Dakota St. 94, IPFW 67
Notre Dame 69, West Virginia 56
Oakland, Mich. 73, S. Dakota St. 72
Ohio St. 74, Illinois 58
Wis.-Green Bay 79, Detroit 58
Wis.-Milwaukee 75, Wright St. 64
Xavier 108, Virginia 70
Youngstown St. 80, Ill.-Chicago 68

FAR WEST

Arizona 76, Oregon St. 63
Arizona St. 62, Oregon 54
BYU 91, Loyola Marymount 62
CS Northridge 80, Cal Poly 59
California 92, Southern Cal 82
Idaho St. 76, N. Colorado 65
N. Arizona 79, E. Washington 75
Portland St. 83, Sacramento St. 58
S. Utah 73, W. Illinois 60
UC Santa Barbara 79, Long Beach St. 64
UCLA 76, Stanford 67
Utah St. 86, Hawaii 80

WOMEN

SOUTH

Columbia 64, N.J. Tech 48
Connecticut 88, Villanova 38
Drexel 81, Mount St. Mary's, Md. 51
Gonzaga 67, Saint Joseph's 43
Lehigh 67, Yale 61, OT
Massachusetts 68, Longwood 58

SOUTH

Army 76, Md.-Eastern Shore 64
Boston College 63, Virginia Tech 53
Coastal Carolina 86, Coker 47
Duke 82, N.C. Central 29
George Washington 68, Auburn 66
LSU 73, Florida St. 61
Maryland 83, Wake Forest 49
Mississippi St. 79, UAB 69

NBA standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	27	3	.900	—
Toronto	17	15	.531	11
New Jersey	15	16	.484	12 1/2
Philadelphia	14	18	.438	14
New York	8	22	.267	19

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	22	12	.647	—
Atlanta	15	14	.517	4 1/2
Washington	15	15	.500	5
Charlotte	11	19	.367	9
Miami	8	24	.250	13

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	25	7	.781	—
Cleveland	15	17	.469	10
Indiana	15	18	.455	10 1/2
Chicago	12	19	.387	12 1/2
Milwaukee	12	19	.387	12 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	21	9	.700	—
Dallas	21	11	.656	1
New Orleans	21	11	.656	1
Houston	15	17	.469	7
Memphis	9	22	.290	12 1/2

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	19	12	.613	—
Portland	20	13	.606	—
Utah	18	16	.529	2 1/2
Seattle	9	23	.281	10 1/2
Minnesota	4	27	.129	15

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	23	9	.719	—
L.A. Lakers	19	11	.633	3
Golden State	19	14	.576	4 1/2
Sacramento	12	18	.400	10
L.A. Clippers	10	20	.333	12

Thursday's Games

Portland 115, Chicago 109, 2OT
Denver 80, San Antonio 77
Phoenix 104, Seattle 96

Today's Games

Houston at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Charlotte at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Memphis at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
New York at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Washington at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Miami at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Sports moves

BASEBALL

American League

OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Traded OF Nick Swisher to the Chicago White Sox for LHP Gio Gonzalez, RHP Fautino De Los Santos and OF Ryan Sweeney.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

BUFFALO BILLS—Re-signed FB Jonathan Evans, WR Felton Huggins, CB E.J. Underwood, OL Nevin McCaskill and DE Shaun Nua. Signed DB Jon Corto.

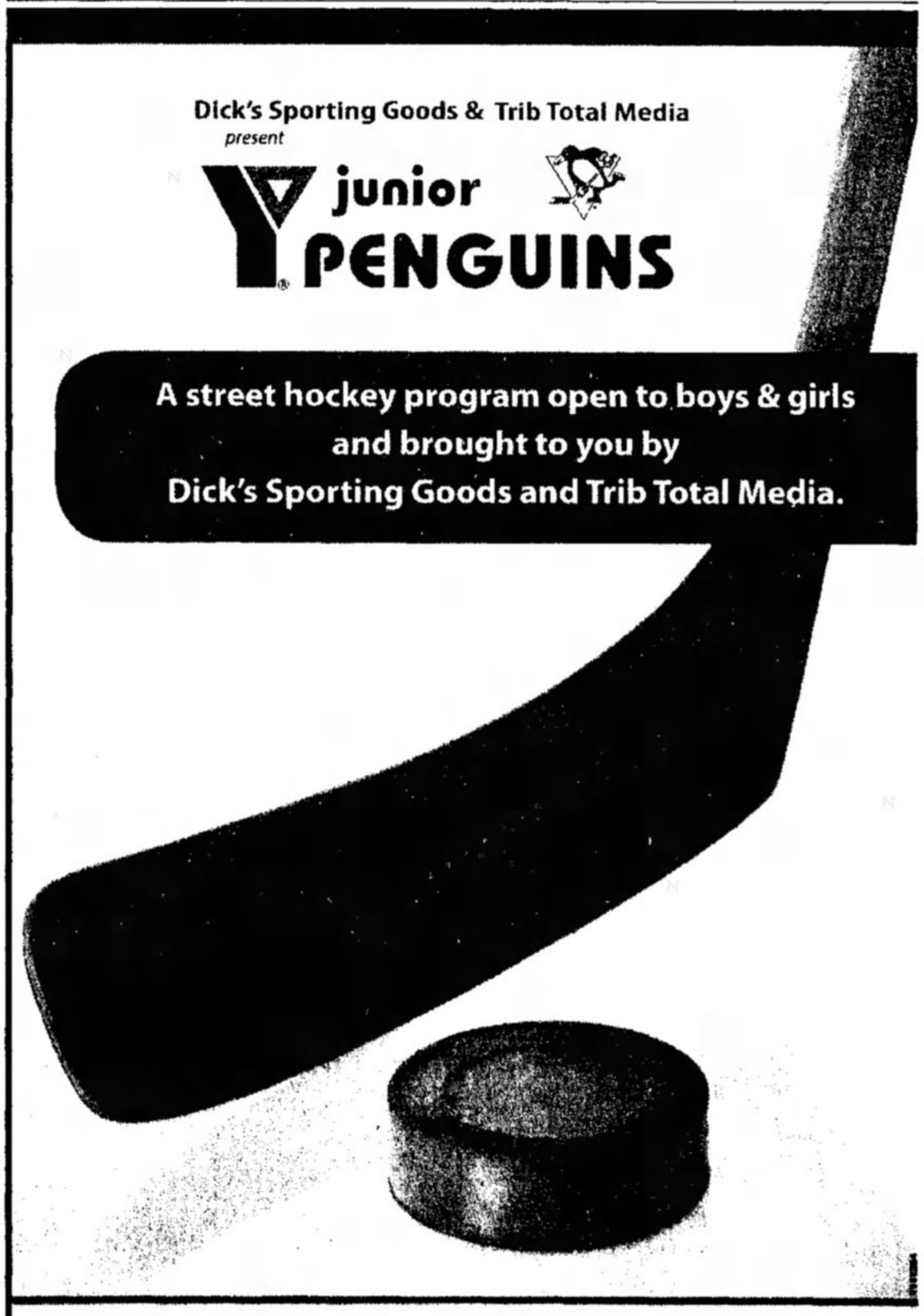
DETROIT LIONS—Promoted Jim Colletto to offensive coordinator, Kippy Brown to assistant head coach and passing game coordinator and Shawn Jefferson to wide receivers coach.

MIAMI DOLPHINS—Fired Cam Cameron, coach.

Dick's Sporting Goods & Trib Total Media present

junior PENGUINS

A street hockey program open to boys & girls and brought to you by Dick's Sporting Goods and Trib Total Media.



JOIN TODAY!

YMCA Junior Penguins programs start in January

Visit ymcaofpittsburgh.org for complete details and to find a location near you.

COMICS

CATHY® by Cathy Guisewite

IF THE SCALE SAID YOU WEIGHED 150, BUT YOU FIT INTO SIZE 6 PANTS, WOULD YOU BELIEVE THE SCALE OR THE PANTS?
THE SCALE.
IF THE SCALE SAID YOU WEIGHED 110, BUT SIZE 14 PANTS WERE TOO TIGHT, WOULD YOU BELIEVE THE SCALE OR THE PANTS?
THE SCALE.
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU BELIEVE THE SCALE ABOVE ANYTHING AND ANYONE?
PRETTY MUCH.
ALL THE YEARS I'VE BEGGED HER TO LISTEN, I SHOULD HAVE JUST STUCK A LITTLE DIAL ON MY FOREHEAD.

GARFIELD® by Jim Davis

STILL GOT THE WINTER BLAHS, I SEE
I COULD PLAY YOU A LITTLE SONG...
-IF I KNEW WHERE YOU HID MY ACCORDION!
YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER

ARLO and JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson

Classic PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz

OUR REGULAR TEACHER IS BACK, SIR..
Z
WELCOME BACK, MA'AM! IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN..
SHE STEPPED OUT OF THE ROOM, SIR..THAT'S THE CUSTODIAN..

MONTY® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail: JimMeddick@aol.com

MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION IS TO TALK TO A DIFFERENT WOMAN EVERY DAY UNTIL I FIND A NEW GIRLFRIEND.
WOW. I FEEL SO SPECIAL! I'M NUMBER FOUR! IT'S SO INCREDIBLY LUCKY ONE, TWO AND THREE DIDN'T WORK OUT!.
YOU'RE BEING SARCASTIC, AREN'T YOU?
PASS ALONG MY CONDOLENCES TO NUMBER 5.

HI & LOIS® by Mort Walker and Dick Browne

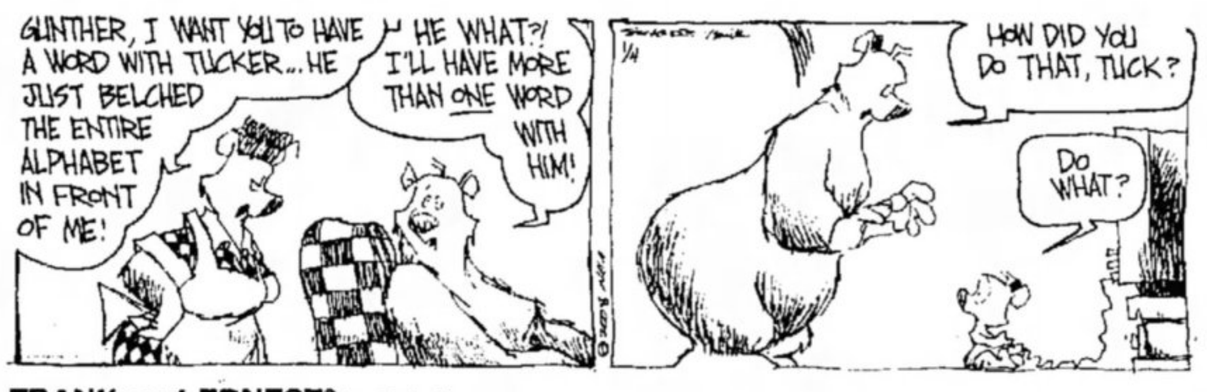
BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker

SARGE IS LEAVING TO GO TO AN ADVANCED TRAINING COURSE
I KNOW. THE MEN ARE HAVING A GOING-AWAY PARTY
1-4
OH, WHEN'S THE PARTY?
AS SOON AS HE GOES AWAY
GREG+ MORT WALKER

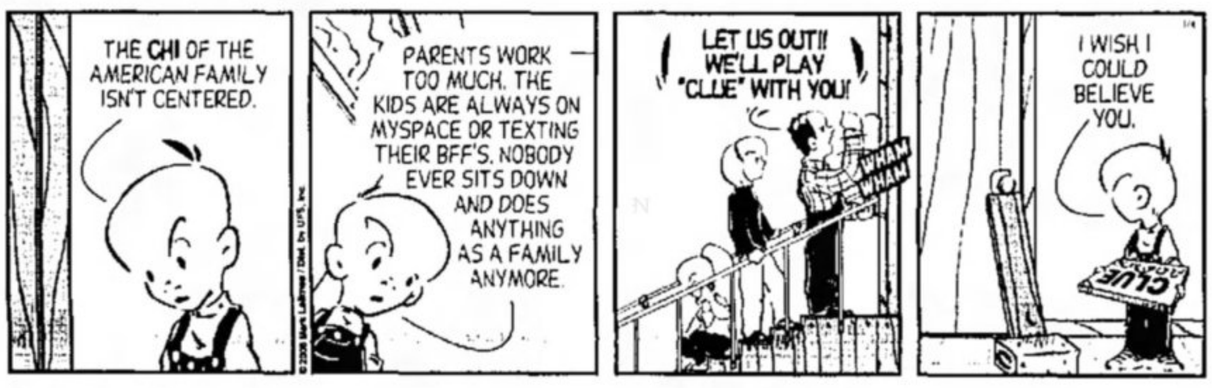
BORN LOSER® by Art Sansom

I CAN'T USE MY NEW CELL PHONE, BECAUSE I CAN'T GET ANY RECEPTION IN OUR OFFICE...
DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS, CHIEF?
IT WOULD MAKE AN ATTRACTIVE DOORSTOP!

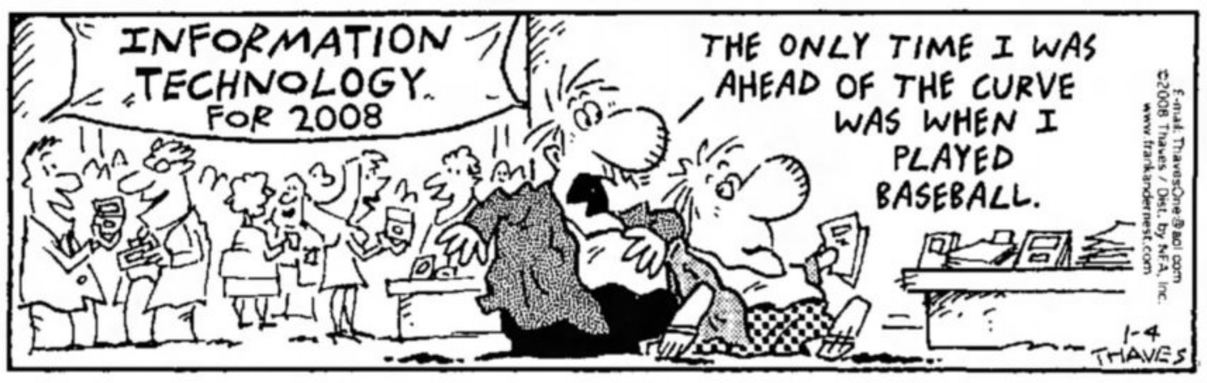
GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr


GUNTHER, I WANT YOU TO HAVE A WORD WITH TUCKER...HE JUST BELCHED THE ENTIRE ALPHABET IN FRONT OF ME!
HE WHAT?! I'LL HAVE MORE THAN ONE WORD WITH HIM!
HOW DID YOU DO THAT, TUCK?
DO WHAT?

COW AND BOY® by Mark Leiknes


THE CHI OF THE AMERICAN FAMILY ISN'T CENTERED.
PARENTS WORK TOO MUCH. THE KIDS ARE ALWAYS ON MYSPACE OR TEXTING THEIR BFF'S. NOBODY EVER SITS DOWN AND DOES ANYTHING AS A FAMILY ANYMORE.
LET US OUT!! WE'LL PLAY "CLUE" WITH YOU!
I WISH I COULD BELIEVE YOU.
CLUE

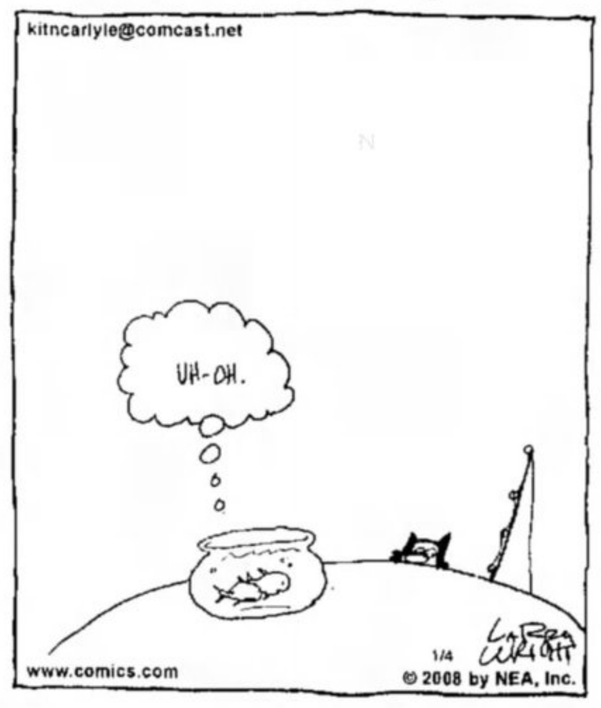
FRANK and ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HERMAN® by Jim Unger

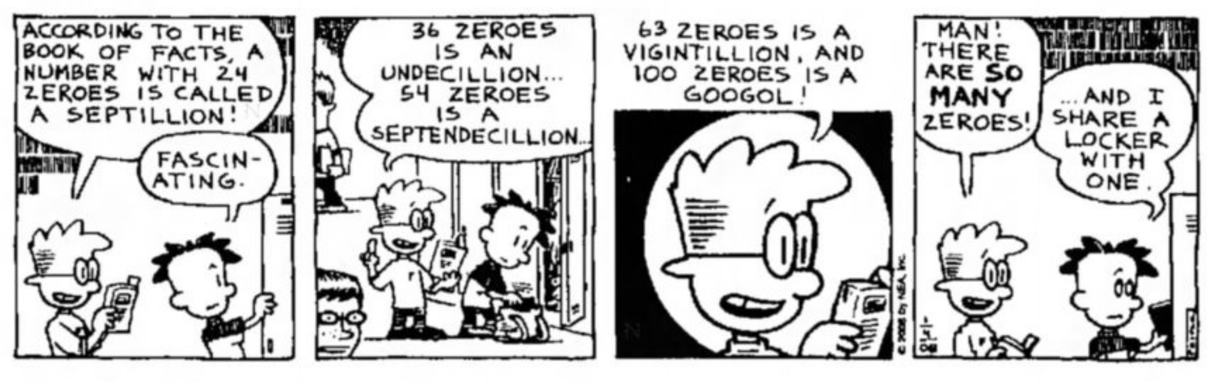
"Guess which tree my dad hit."

KIT'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright



SOUP TO NUTZ™ by Rick Stromoski

BIG NATE® by Lincoln Peirce


ACCORDING TO THE BOOK OF FACTS, A NUMBER WITH 24 ZEROES IS CALLED A SEPTILLION!
FASCINATING.
36 ZEROES IS AN UNDECILLION... 54 ZEROES IS A SEPTENDECILLION.
63 ZEROES IS A VIGINTILLION, AND 100 ZEROES IS A GOOGOL!
MAN! THERE ARE SO MANY ZEROES!
...AND I SHARE A LOCKER WITH ONE.

ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue

I'LL BET A PRESENTATION'S PLANNED FOR I SENSE THERE'S SOMETHING IN YOUR HAND!
YEAH, I GOT OOOLA A PRESENT! NO ONE IN MOO'S EVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!
1-4-08
IT'S RIGHT HERE IN THIS...
OH, NO!!

MARK TRAIL® by Jack Elrod

AFTER LEARNING THAT LUKE WILSON KILLED BULL MALONE, MARK HEADS BACK TO THE COMMUNITY TO TELL JOHNNY AND THE POLICE
JACK ELROD
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE LUKE WOULD KILL HIS FRIEND BULL JUST TO BE WITH BULL'S WIFE... THERE MUST BE MORE TO IT!
KATHY...WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?...SOMEONE MIGHT SEE YOU!
I HAD TO SEE YOU!

Crossword Puzzle

THE VALLEY INDEPENDENT

ACROSS

1 Hectic place
4 Kind of system
7 Luxury resort
10 — de cologne
11 Gentle person
13 *Mouse target?*
14 Short queries
15 Active volcano
16 Gourmand's malady
17 *Fork or spoon*
19 Tall vases
20 Chat, slangily
21 Veldt grazer
23 Omigosh!
26 Chef's attire
28 Bauxite or galena
29 Dazzle
30 Tattered
34 Exhausted
36 Young goat
38 Festive night
39 UFO pilot
41 Lemon peel
42 Tree with pods
44 Ernesto *Guevera*
46 Sanskrit dialect
47 Like a hawk
51 Dot on the ocean
52 *Graph part*
53 Pitcher handle
55 Ticket info
56 Posted a parcel
57 Caustic *substance*
58 Tofu base
59 Pastoral spot
60 Chicago White —

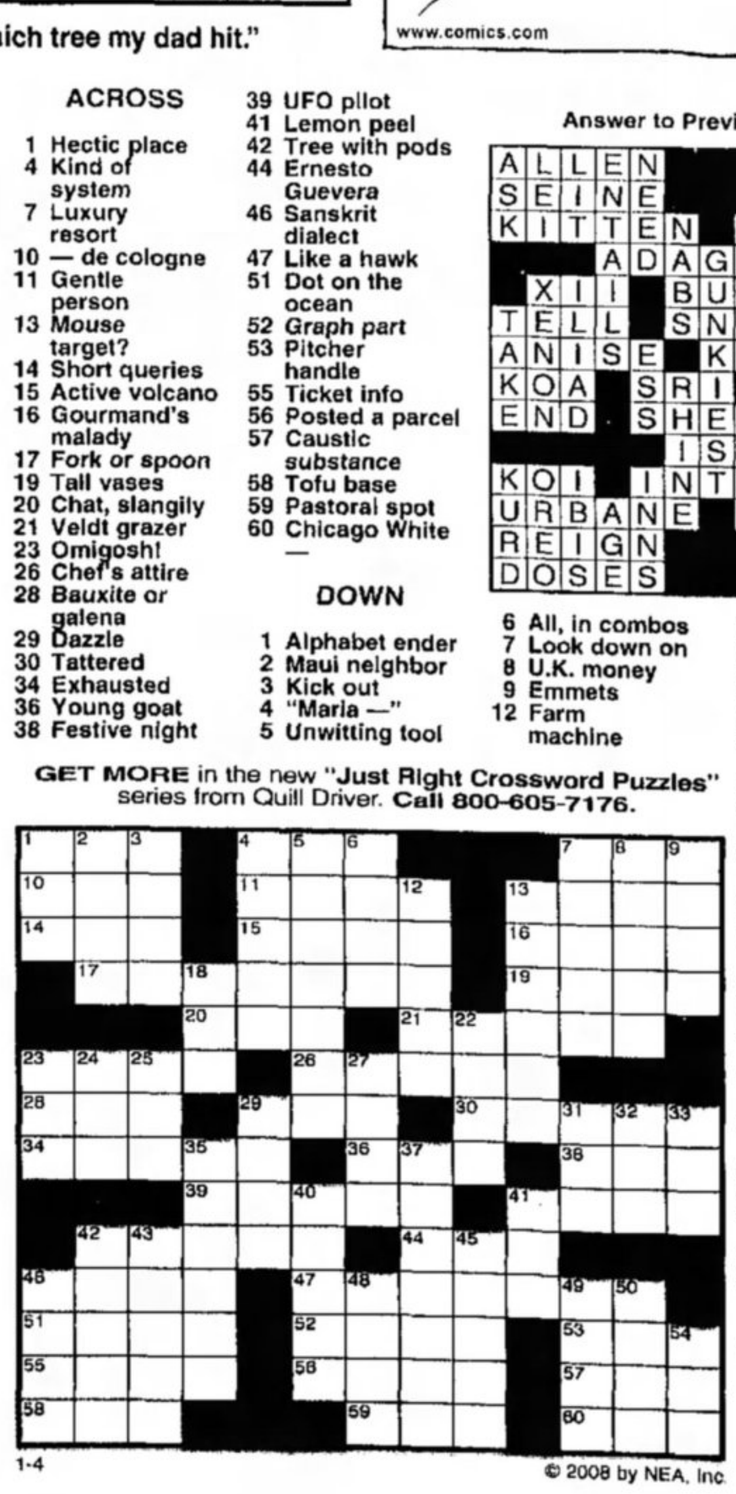
DOWN

1 Alphabet ender
2 Maui neighbor
3 Kick out
4 "Maria —"
5 Unwitting tool
6 All, in combos
7 Look down on
8 U.K. money
9 Emmets
12 Farm machine
13 Big lizard
18 Before
22 Serf's master
23 Ouch!
24 Fury
25 Princess perturber
27 Lap dog
29 Jean Auel heroine
31 Caddie's offering
32 VCR hookups
33 Moreover
35 More suggestive
37 Ramp
40 Specks
41 Koan discipline
42 Timex competitor
43 Bowler's hangout
45 Plantain lily
46 Indentations
48 Salchow relative
49 Sushi fish
50 The Banana Boat Song (hyph.)
54 Tyranno-saurus —

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	L	L	E	N			H	A	R	M	S
S	E	I	N	E			E	M	A	I	L
K	I	T	T	E	N		E	M	P	I	R	E
			A	D	A	G	E	S		N	E	W
	X	I	I		B	U	R					
T	E	L	L		S	N	I	P		V	E	T
A	N	I	S	E		K	E	A		O	B	I
K	O	A		S	R	I		R	O	T	O	R
E	N	D		S	H	E	A		R	E	N	E
				I	S	M			D	R	Y	
K	O	I		I	N	T	O	N	E			
U	R	B	A	N	E		K	A	R	A	T	E
R	E	I	G	N				M	E	L	O	N
D	O	S	E	S				E	D	I	T	S

GET MORE in the new "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" series from Quill Driver. **Call 800-605-7176.**



1-4

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Man regrets single-minded focus on wife of 30 years

Dear **ABBY**

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to the same woman for more than 30 years. My wife has recently been diagnosed with cancer. During all the years of our marriage, I blocked out everyone else because I thought all I needed was her. Now my biggest fear is that if I should lose her, I'll be completely alone. What in my personality caused me to do this? — **REGRETFUL IN LOS ANGELES**

DEAR REGRETFUL: It's possible that your wife has fulfilled all of your needs for companionship during your marriage — and/or you may not be a particularly social animal. Please don't waste your time looking backward and feeling bad about what you "should" have done but didn't. So many advances have been made in the treatment of cancer; your wife could survive to spend many more happy years with you.

If your fear is that, in the event of your wife's death, you will face a bleak and solitary future, please realize that eligible widowers in your age bracket are highly desirable. Rather than worrying about being socially isolated, worry more about holding the "casserole brigade" at bay until you're far enough along in the grieving process that you don't get involved too quickly.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a divorced woman with two grown children. My daughter is 24; my son is 19. I am a professional firefighter and in excellent shape. I recently met a man at the gym, and we were mutually attracted. He's a firefighter in a nearby city, and we have mutual friends. There has been some discussion about going on a date, but so far nothing has transpired.

The problem, as my daughter sees it, is that he's 16 years younger than I am and one year older than she is. She's upset by the age difference and says it is "disturbing." My fiance died suddenly two years ago, and I have only recently begun dating again. I asked her to be happy for me. She responded that she thinks it's great that I'm pretty enough and in good enough shape to attract a 25-year-old, but it's "not right."

I love my daughter, but I don't want to live my life to make her happy anymore. She's an adult. Neither of my kids lives at home. I see them about once a month or so.

My daughter has discussed this with her friends, who all side with her. Because I work with men, I threw the ball into their court. They all said, "Great! Go for it!"

Why can't my daughter be happy for me? She would rather I date someone in his 40s — and I would, if I met someone who showed any interest.

My profession is a difficult one for the average man to accept. They don't like the fact that I spend so much time around other men. I feel as though my daughter is turning this latest dating interest into something lewd and tawdry when it is far from it. What should I do? — **TINA IN TEXAS**

DEAR TINA: Understand that your daughter may feel threatened because you are drawing from the same dating pool that she's fishing in. Then decide that if that man finally asks you out, you're going to live your own life and keep it private. From my perspective, too much conversation has already occurred. You have been put on the defensive, but you don't owe anyone an apology.

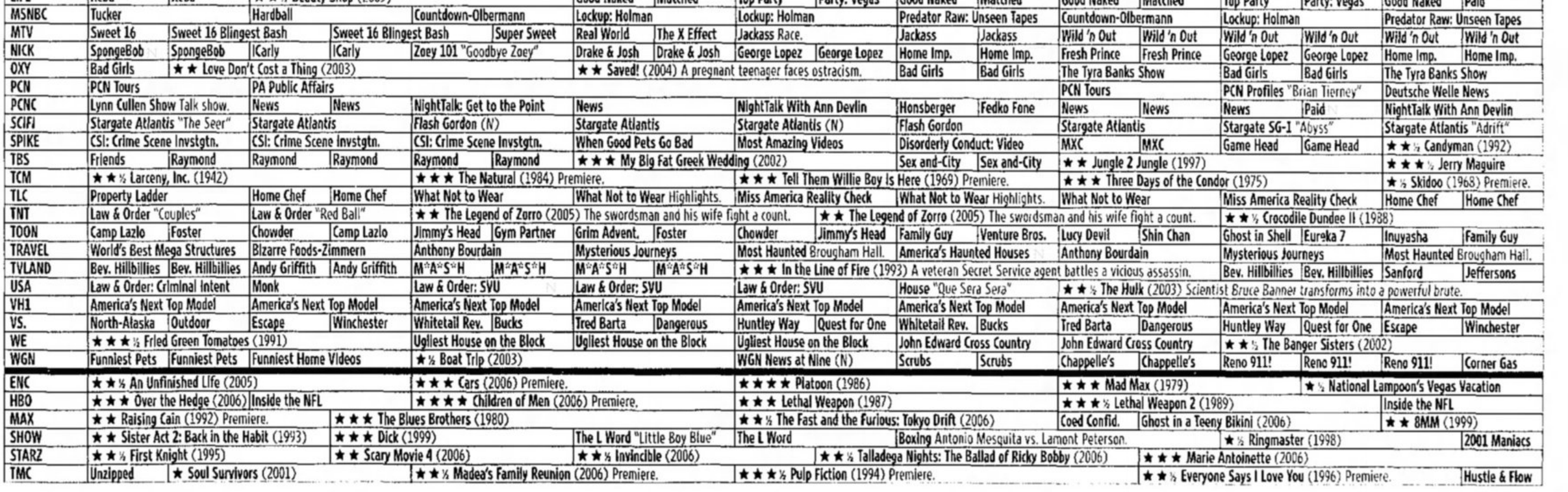
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Read The Valley Independent
online at
www.valleyindependent.com

FRIDAY EVENING

JAN. 4, 2008

	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30	12AM	12:30	1AM	1:30	2AM	2:30
CBS (2) KDKA (7) WTRF (10) WTAJ	News (N)	(7) (10) CBS Evening News With Katie Couric (N)	(2) CBS Evening News-Couric/ (7) Entertainment/ (10) Inside	(2) The Insider (N)/ (7) Inside Edition/ (10) Two and a Half Men	Ghost Whisperer "The Underneath" Melinda discovers that she has an underlying connection to Grandview.		Moonlight "Doctor Feelgood" Beth and Mick track down a bloodthirsty renegade vampire.		NUMB3RS "Trust Metric" Don, Charlie and the team must track down Granger, who has escaped from custody.		News (N)	Late Show With David Letterman Donald Trump; Lupe Fiasco. (N)		The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson		(2) Extra/ (7) The Insider/ (10) Everybody Loves Raymond "Sweet Charity"	(2) (10) Paid/ (7) That '70s Show Kelso fears fatherhood.	(2) Paid/ (7) H20 Vac V4C/ (10) AutomotiveVision.TV
ABC (4) WTAE (23) WATM	(4) News (N)/ (23) The Insider Kim Kardashian. (N)	ABC's World News With Charles Gibson (N)	(4) Inside Edition/ (23) Jeopardy! (N)	(4) Entertainment Tonight/ (23) Wheel of Fortune	Grey's Anatomy "A Change Is Gonna Come" Cristina, back from her honeymoon trip, searches in vain for Burke.		Women's Murder Club "FBI Guy" Lindsay's life is threatened. (N)		20/20 The 2008 presidential campaigns; physical challenges. (N)		(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11 (N)/ (23) News (N)	Nightline (N)	Jimmy Kimmel Live		(4) Oprah Winfrey/ (23) Paid	(23) Paid	(4) Paid/ (23) Jerry Springer	(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11
NBC (6) WJAC (9) WTOV (11) WPXI	News (N)	NBC Nightly News (N)	(6) Entertainment Tonight People's Choice Awards./ (9) (11) Jeopardy!	(6) Who Wants to Be a Millionaire/ (9) (11) Wheel of Fortune (N)	1 vs. 100 Battle of the sexes. (Season Premiere) (N)		Friday Night Lights "There Goes the Neighborhood" A tornado hits the Dillon County area. (N)		Las Vegas "I Could Eat a Horse" Danny and Mike head to Wyoming to buy a horse. (N)		News (N)	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno		Late Night With Conan O'Brien		Last Call With Carson Daly	Poker After Dark Players include Daniel Negreanu, Phil Hellmuth, Jennifer Harman, Mike Matusow, Scotty Nguyen and Ken Light. (N)	
FOX (8) WWCP (53) WPGH	(8) The Simpsons/ (53) Two and a Half Men	(8) That '70s Show/ (53) Frasier	(8) Seinfeld/ (53) Two and a Half Men	Seinfeld "The Watch" Jerry tries to buy back watch.	Bones "The Boneless Bride in the River" A woman's boneless body is found in a river.		House "Hunting" House treats unique symptoms exhibited by a gay AIDS patient and his father.		(8) News (N)/ (53) Channel 11 News on FOX 53 at 10 (N)		(8) The King of Queens/ (53) Seinfeld	(8) Frasier/ (53) Scrubs	(8) ★★½ Happy, Texas/ (53) Scrubs "My Bright Idea"	(53) Street Heaters	(53) Paid	(53) Paid	(8) Sculpting a Sexy Body/ (53) Sex and the City	(8) Malt Shop Memories/ (53) Cheaters
(13) WQED	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Nightly Business Report	Off Q	Washington Week (N)	NOW on PBS (N)	Bill Moyers Journal (N)		In the Life Comic Margaret Cho.		Charlie Rose (N)		Off Q	On Q	Bedford Springs: Opening		Mystery! "Inspector Lynley: In Pursuit of the Proper Sinner"	
(19) WPCW	The People's Court		Everybody-Raymond	Everybody-Raymond	WWE Friday Night SmackDown! (N)				The 10 O'Clock News	The Nightly Sports Call	Malcolm in the Middle	According to Jim	That '70s Show	King of the Hill	South Park	Paid	Paid	Paid
(22) WPMY	The Simpsons	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Family Guy	★½ Bubble Boy (2001)				TMZ (N)	Frasier	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Paid	Paid	Bernie Mac	My Wife-Kids	Half & Half	Half & Half
(40) WPCB	The 700 Club		Focus 4		The Narrow Road		Khosrow	Life Message	In Touch-Dr. Charles Stanley		CBN News	Richard and Lindsay Roberts	TV One Life		The Zone	Extreme Life	Ultimate	Pure Passion
(59) WBGN	Temptation	Temptation	Degrassi	Reno 911!	The Nanny	Mad Abt. You	The Collector		ReGenesis "The Source"		Reno 911!	Blind Date	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
A&E	Cold Case Files		CSI: Miami "Shootout"		CSI: Miami "Dead Zone"		CSI: Miami "Hard Time"		CSI: Miami "Death Grip"		CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami "Dead Zone"		CSI: Miami "Hard Time"		CSI: Miami "Death Grip"	
ABCFAM	8 Rules	8 Rules	Grounded-Life	★★★ Meet the Parents (2000)					Funniest Home Videos		The 700 Club		Whose Line?	Whose Line?	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
AMC	★★ Raising Helen (2004)				★★★ Working Girl (1988)					★★ The Blue Lagoon (1980)				★★½ The Fury (1978)				
ANPL	The Crocodile Hunter		Growing Up... "Grizzly 2"		Orangutan	Orangutan	Orangutan	The A-List (N)	Animal Precinct		Orangutan	Orangutan	Orangutan	The A-List	Animal Precinct		Growing Up... "Grizzly 2"	
BBC	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		BBC World News America		Coupling	Coupling "Faithless"		Tate	BBC World News America		Coupling	Coupling "Faithless"		Tate	Coupling	World	The Graham Norton Show	
BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live (N)			Hell Date	★½ Leprechaun: Back 2 tha Hood (2003)				Girlfriends	Girlfriends	Hell Date	Hell Date	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	Comicview		BET Late	
BRAVO	Last Comic Standing		Last Comic	Make Me a Supermodel	★★★ Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986)					★★★ Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986)				★★★ Beetlejuice (1988)				Supermodel
CMT	2007 CMT Music Awards				★★★ Urban Cowboy (1980) A Texas oil worker looks for love at a popular honky-tonk.						Simon Cowell	★½ Hope Floats (1998)					CMT Music	
CNBC	Mad Money		Kudlow & Company		Fast Money	Net Worth	The Suze Orman Show		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money		The Suze Orman Show		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Paid	Paid
CNN	The Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Out in the Open		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360	
COM	★★½ Bandits (2001)		Scrubs	Scrubs	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Presents	Presents	Presents	Presents	Presents	Presents	Chappelle's	Dave Chappelle: For What It's Worth			Chappelle
COURT	Wildest Police Videos		Cops	Cops	Most Shocking (N)		Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Power, Privilege & Justice		Murder by the Book		Most Shocking		Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Power, Privilege & Justice	
CSPAN	House of Rep.	Tonight From Washington			Presidential Libraries: History Uncovered				Tonight From Washington		Presidential Libraries: History Uncovered				Capital News Today		Today in Washington	
DISC	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	How It's Made	How It's Made	Survivorman		Man vs. Wild "Sahara"		Fight Quest "Philippines" (N)		Fight Quest Kung fu in China.		Survivorman		Man vs. Wild "Sahara"		Fight Quest "Philippines"	
DISNEY	Zack & Cody	Zack & Cody	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	★★ Around the World in 80 Days (2004) Premiere.				Zack & Cody	Life Derek	Zack & Cody	Han. Montana	Replacements	Kim Possible	Emperor New	Dragon	Buzz Light	Timon
E!	Kardashians	Kardashians	E! News (N)	The Daily 10	Britney Spears: Fall		Wildest Wed	The Soup	The Soup (N)	Wild Dating 2	E! News	Chelsea	The Daily 10	The Soup	Saturday Night Live		Cohen-Borat	Chelsea
ESPN	SportsCenter		NBA Basketball Detroit Pistons at Toronto Raptors.					NBA Basketball	Miami Heat at Dallas Mavericks.				SportsCenter		NFL Live (N)	Fastbreak	SportsCenter	
ESPNC	Schwab	Schwab	American Gladiators		Boxing		60 Min.	60 Min.	American Gladiators		Bull Riding PRCA Xtreme.		Boxing		2-Minute Drill	2-Minute Drill	Cheap Seats	Arliss
ESPN2	2007 World Series of Poker		High School Football		Karate: ISKA Champ.		Boxing Friday Night Fights. Allan Green vs. Rubin Williams.				SportsCenter		Boxing		Boxing Friday Night Fights. Allan Green vs. Rubin Williams.			
EWTN	Divine	Woman	Daily Mass: Our Lady		The World Over		Worth Living	Holy Rosary	Defending	Reasons	Rome Reports	Fishers	Daily Mass: Our Lady		The World Over		Worth Living	Defending
FNC	Special Report		Fox Report-Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		Special Report	
FOOD	Minute Meals	Minute Meals	Emeril Live (N)		Good Eats	Tasty Travels	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Paula's Party (N)		Good Eats	Unwrapped	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Paula's Party		Good Eats	Unwrapped
FSN	Final Score	Savran on SportsBeat		In Focus	FSN Pro Football Preview		Best Damn Top 50 Special		SportsBeat	Final Score	FSN Pro Football Preview		Final Score	Best Damn Top 50 Special		SportsBeat	Final Score	Final Score
FX	★★ Rebound (2005)				★★ Big Momma's House (2000)				★★ Big Momma's House (2000)				★½ The Master of Disguise (2002)				Paid	Paid
GOLF	PGA Tour Golf Mercedes-Benz Championship — Second Round. From the Plantation Course at Kapalua in Kapalua, Hawaii.									Post Game Show		Golf Central	PGA Tour Golf Mercedes-Benz Championship — Second Round.					
GSN	Lingo	Whammy	Weakest Link		Be a Millionaire		Question	Family Feud	Family Feud	Chain	Lingo	Whammy	Be a Millionaire		Trivia Trap	Now You See	High Stakes Poker	
HALL	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger		Straight From the Heart (2003)				Murder, She Wrote		Murder, She Wrote		Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger	
HGTV	Extreme	If Walls Could	House Worth?	House	Designed-Sell	Save My Bath	My Kitchen	Find Style	House	House	Get It Sold	Parents	Designed-Sell	Save My Bath	My Kitchen	Find Style	House	House
HIST	Shootout!		Modern Marvels		Modern Marvels		Shockwave (N)		Secrets of the Kama Sutra		Decoding the Past		Modern Marvels		Shockwave		Secrets of the Kama Sutra	
LIFE	Reba	Reba	★★½ Beauty Shop (2005)				Good Naked	Matched	Top Party	Party: Vegas	Good Naked	Matched	Good Naked	Matched	Top Party	Party: Vegas	Good Naked	Paid
MSNBC	Tucker		Hardball		Countdown-Olbermann		Lockup: Holman		Lockup: Holman		Predator Raw: Unseen Tapes		Countdown-Olbermann		Lockup: Holman		Predator Raw: Unseen Tapes	
MTV	Sweet 16	Sweet 16 Blingest Bash		Sweet 16 Blingest Bash		Super Sweet	Real World	The X Effect	Jackass Race.		Jackass	Jackass	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out
NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	iCarly	iCarly	Zoey 101 "Goodbye Zoey"		Drake & Josh	Drake & Josh	George Lopez	George Lopez	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	George Lopez	George Lopez	Home Imp.	Home Imp.
OXY	Bad Girls	★★ Love Don't Cost a Thing (2003)					★★ Saved! (2004) A pregnant teenager faces ostracism.				Bad Girls	Bad Girls	The Tyra Banks Show		Bad Girls	Bad Girls	The Tyra Banks Show	
PCN	PCN Tours		PA Public Affairs										PCN Tours		PCN Profiles "Brian Tierney"		Deutsche Welle News	
PCNC	Lynn Cullen Show Talk show.		News	News	NightTalk: Get to the Point		News		NightTalk With Ann Devlin		Honsberger	Fedko Fone	News	News	News	Paid	NightTalk With Ann Devlin	
SCIFI	Stargate Atlantis "The Seer"		Stargate Atlantis		Flash Gordon (N)		Stargate Atlantis		Stargate Atlantis (N)		Flash Gordon		Stargate Atlantis		Stargate SG-1 "Abyss"		Stargate Atlantis "Adrift"	
SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		When Good Pets Go Bad		Most Amazing Videos		Disorderly Conduct: Video		MXC	MXC	Game Head	Game Head	★★½ Candyman (1992)	
TBS	Friends	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	★★★ My Big Fat Greek Wedding (2002)				Sex and-City	Sex and-City	★★ Jungle 2 Jungle (1997)				★★★½ Jerry Maguire	
TCM	★★½ Larceny, Inc. (1942)				★★★ The Natural (1984) Premiere.				★★★ Tell Them Willie Boy Is Here (1969) Premiere.				★★★ Three Days of the Condor (1975)				★½ Skidoo (1968) Premiere.	
TLC	Property Ladder		Home Chef	Home Chef	What Not to Wear		What Not to Wear Highlights.		Miss America Reality Check		What Not to Wear Highlights.		What Not to Wear		Miss America Reality Check		Home Chef	Home Chef
TNT	Law & Order "Couples"		Law & Order "Red Ball"		★★ The Legend of Zorro (2005) The swordsman and his wife fight a count.					★★ The Legend of Zorro (2005) The swordsman and his wife fight a count.			★★½ Crocodile Dundee II (1988)					
TOON	Camp Lazlo	Foster	Chowder	Camp Lazlo	Jimmy's Head	Gym Partner	Grim Advent.	Foster	Chowder	Jimmy's Head	Family Guy	Venture Bros.	Lucy Devil	Shin Chan	Ghost in Shell	Eureka 7	Inuyasha	Family Guy
TRAVEL	World's Best Mega Structures		Bizarre Foods-Zimmern		Anthony Bourdain		Mysterious Journeys		Most Haunted Brougham Hall.		America's Haunted Houses		Anthony Bourdain		Mysterious Journeys		Most Haunted Brougham Hall.	
TVLAND	Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	★★★ In the Line of Fire (1993) A veteran Secret Service agent battles a vicious assassin.						Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	Sanford	Jeffersons
USA	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Monk		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		House "Que Sera Sera"		★★½ The Hulk (2003) Scientist Bruce Banner transforms into a powerful brute.					
VH1	America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model	
VS.	North-Alaska	Outdoor	Escape	Winchester	Whitetail Rev.	Bucks	Tred Barta	Dangerous	Huntley Way	Quest for One	Whitetail Rev.	Bucks	Tred Barta	Dangerous	Huntley Way	Quest for One	Escape	Winchester
WE	★★★½ Fried Green Tomatoes (1991)				Ugliest House on the Block		Ugliest House on the Block		Ugliest House on the Block		John Edward Cross Country		John Edward Cross Country		★★½ The Banger Sisters (2002)			
WGN	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Funniest Home Videos		★½ Boat Trip (2003)				WGN News at Nine (N)		Scrubs	Scrubs	Chappelle's	Chappelle's	Reno 911!	Reno 911!	Reno 911!	Corner Gas
ENC	★★½ An Unfinished Life (2005)				★★★ Cars (2006) Premiere.				★★★★ Platoon (1986)				★★★ Mad Max (1979)			★½ National Lampoon's Vegas Vacation		
HBO	★★★ Over the Hedge (2006)	Inside the NFL			★★★★ Children of Men (2006) Premiere.				★★★ Lethal Weapon (1987)				★★★½ Lethal Weapon 2 (1989)				Inside the NFL	
MAX	★★ Raising Cain (1992) Premiere.		★★★ The Blues Brothers (1980)						★★½ The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift (2006)				Coed Confid.	Ghost in a Teeny Bikini (2006)			★★ 8MM (1999)	
SHOW	★★ Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit (1993)		★★★ Dick (1999)				The L Word "Little Boy Blue"		The L Word		Boxing Antonio Mesquita vs. Lamont Peterson.				★½ Ringmaster (1998)			2001 Maniacs
STARZ	★★½ First Knight (1995)		★★ Scary Movie 4 (2006)				★★½ Invincible (2006)			★★½ Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby (2006)			★★★ Marie Antoinette (2006)					
TMC	Unzipped	★ Soul Survivors (2001)			★★½ Madea's Family Reunion (2006) Premiere.				★★★½ Pulp Fiction (1994) Premiere.					★★½ Everyone Says I Love You (1996) Premiere.				Hustle & Flow



FEATURES

PROJECT OF THE WEEK

Cabinet balances form and function

An elegant balance of form and function, Craftsman-style furniture possesses a refined simplicity that blends well with almost any decor. That simple elegance is what gives this Craftsman-style curio cabinet project its classic appeal. Equally at home in the dining room or the den, the cabinet is perfect for displaying collections ranging from fine china and crystal to antique fishing reels and wooden decoys.

As pictured, the project is made from oak (the traditional choice), but other species will work just as well. True to the Craftsman spirit, the project features simple joinery and straightforward construction techniques. Most of the cuts are straight and the curves are traced from full-size patterns.

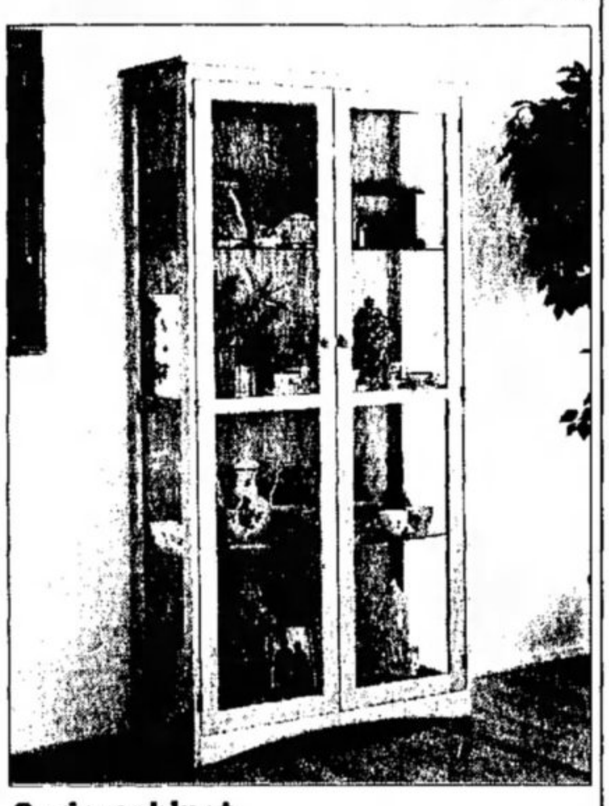
To build, trace the pieces onto wood and cut everything out. Next, assemble the project using glue and nails, then hang the doors and install the glass door and side panels. To finish, install the shelves. For a truly dazzling effect, there's room in the top for an interior light.

The curio cabinet measures 72 inches tall by 36 inches wide by 14 inches deep.

The Craftsman Curio Cabinet plan, No. 901, is $9.95 and includes step-by-step directions with photos, full-size traceable patterns, construction diagrams, a shopping list and cutting schedule and a toll-free help line for project questions.

A package of Craftsman-style furniture plans, No. C149, is $22.95 and includes this project plus plans for a grandfather clock and a bookcase with glass doors. A free catalog picturing dozens of do-it-yourself projects is also available. Please include $4 for postage and handling and allow about two weeks for delivery.

To order by mail, clip this article and send it with a check or money order to U-Bild Features, c/o *The Valley Independent*, 3800 Oceanic Drive, Ste. 107, Oceanside, CA 92056. To order by credit card, call 1-800-828-2453. Visit U-Bild on the Web at u-bild.com.



Curio cabinet

CHRISTMAS CHEER CLUB

Kailee, 7, and James Triggiani, 18 months, joined the Christmas Cheer Club. They're the children of John Triggiani and Nicole Jonczak, of Monessen.

Jonalynn Roberts, 4, joined the Christmas Cheer Club. She's the daughter of Karen Fetterman and Rick Roberts.

Valley Grapevine deadline set

Items for Valley Grapevine should be submitted at least five publishing days prior to scheduled meetings or events.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: O equals S

"H'Y K BMRSSV FTXWRXHRXS UTHZ UTM K ZTS TU BRTBZR." - GRWHX FTOSXRM"H'Y SNR UZKWTM TU SNR YTXSN." - JRTMJR FZTTXRV

PREVIOUS SOLUTION — "The function of the creative artist consists in making laws, not in following laws already made." - Ferruccio Busoni

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VALLEY GRAPEVINE

Grocery bingos to resume at Holy Ghost Church

Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church, Ninth Street and Meadow Avenue, Charleroi, will resume its grocery bingos 1:30 p.m. Sunday, weather permitting.

Lifestyle improvement programs set at YMCA

The Mon Valley YMCA, Carroll Township, will begin two new four-week Highmark lifestyle improvement programs the week of Jan. 7. "Discover Relaxation Within," which begins Jan. 7, teaches techniques to manage stress and evoke relaxation. "Eat Well for Life," beginning Jan. 9, promotes wellness and long-term weight management. Both programs are free for Highmark members and are offered at a nominal fee for those not with Highmark. For information, contact Bill Holzapfel at the YMCA at (724) 483-8077.

Corning Glass Retirees to meet

Corning Glass Retirees will meet 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Charleroi Senior Center at Riverside Place. Members are reminded that dues will be collected.

Thomas McKee Legion to meet

Members of Thomas McKee American Legion Post will meet 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Mon Valley Community Health Center, Monessen.

Albert Gallatin looking for hospice volunteers

Albert Gallatin Home Care & Hospice is currently recruiting individuals to be trained as hospice volunteers for the Washington area. As a volunteer you will play an integral role in the life of a hospice patient by providing socialization to patients, assistance with errands, respite care and grief support to their families. You can also provide administrative support in the office. Select the level of care that works for you, the hours that suit your needs and the community you would like to work in. Training is provided. Classes are scheduled to begin 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at the Washington branch, 275 Meadowlands Blvd., Washington. Enrollment is limited. For information, call 1-800-245-4144, extension 1214 or 1337.

Former Page employees to meet

Former Page Steel and Wire employees will hold a luncheon meeting noon Wednesday at Eat 'n Park restaurant, Rostraver Township.

Monessen Southwestern Railroaders to meet

The former Monessen Southwestern Railroaders will meet for lunch noon Wednesday at Hoss's Steak and Sea House, Rostraver Township.

Murtha staffer coming to Brownsville

A staff member from Congressman John P. Murtha's office will offer assistance with federal agencies or programs 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday and Jan. 23 at the Brownsville Borough Building, Second and High streets. For immediate assistance call Murtha's toll-free number at 1-800-289-2642.

Seats available for Clarke County trip

The First Baptist Church, West Newton, has seats available on a one-day bus trip April 26 to the Winchester/Clark County Garden Club's annual house and garden tour, this year to be held in Clarke County. Contact Donna Miller for reservations at (724) 872-6439 or for information only, call Sandy Kuch at (724) 872-8726.

Frugal Living

Wedding favors on a budget

Sara **NOEL**

The reality of the cost of a wedding hits hard fairly early in the planning. Something's got to give, and it can be difficult to decide where to trim costs without looking cheap.

With the majority of the budget typically allocated to the reception, one area where you can cut costs is the wedding favors. Readers come to the rescue with their wedding-favor ideas so you don't break the bank.

USEFUL AND ECO-FRIENDLY: I've seen seed packets with a poem attached. — **Amy, Ohio**

STICKING TOGETHER: At one wedding recently, there was a big bowl filled with individual sticks of gum in it. They all had tags on them that read, "Happily stuck together for life," and the couple's names. It was cute! You could use gumballs, too. I also attended a wedding that had tea bags in mini envelopes. You can wrap a pretty votive candle in colored netting, and tie with a pretty ribbon, too. — **Barb, Pennsylvania**

SWEET AND SOPHISTICATED: I got a chocolate bar once that had the couple's name and wedding date on the wrapper. I liked that because I could eat it. I don't like anything I can't use, but I'm also particularly irritated by "stuff" in my house. — **Acidcookie, e-mail**

SPOONFUL OF SUGAR: At my wedding, I bought spoons, tulle, ribbon and chocolates and made a small saying on card stock. Put two chocolates on the spoon, wrap it in a small piece of tulle and tie it with the ribbon. — **Tracy, Pennsylvania**

DONATE: We didn't give out favors, but each guest received a small note card that read: "In lieu of favors, a donation has been made to the American Cancer Society in honor of our Guests." You could donate to any charity you want. Our best friends gave out a tree in the box. Visit www.treeinabox.com.— **Nemeweh, e-mail**

PRESERVE THE DAY: The most unusual thing I ever received as a favor at a wedding was a small, fancy jar of homemade jam. — **Liz, New York**

PICTURE THIS: I bought little pewter frames online for 88 cents each. The frames were the same size as business cards. I printed the place cards on business cards, put them in the frames and used those for the favors. I know people from work who still have the frames on their desks. — **Getnrichslowly, e-mail**

CUT OUT FOR LOVE: I've seen cookie cutters tied together with a recipe for "Lovers Shortbread," or something similar. — **Ladynada, Canada**

PLANT A MEMORY: I went to a wedding that had flower bulbs for favors. They filled a terra-cotta pot with bulbs and wrapped it in tulle. You could put them into organza bags, too. — Jessie, e-mail

KEEPSAKE: I had sand dollars as my wedding favors. I attached a magnet to the back. — **Julie, e-mail**

GOOD LUCK: I attended a wedding that had lottery tickets for favors. — **Tara J, via e-mail**

FLOWER POWER: I helped my sister make silk-flower pens. Take a ball-point pen and remove the pen cartridge inside, so you have just the outer sleeve casing. Cut a silk-flower stem to the height of the pen-sleeve casing and insert the stem. Place the pen cartridge back into the sleeve casing, and wrap the casing with green floral tape. — **Melissa, e-mail**

WARM THEIR HEARTS: Put coffee beans or ground coffee in a canning jar with a coffee scoop. I've seen coffee bricks for $1.50 and chrome scoops for less than $2. — **Jill S., Arkansas**

NEW BEGINNINGS: I saw the cutest favors at a wedding. They put blue-colored almonds into a mini twig nest. They had a ribbon banner attached with the names of the wedding couple. I think speckled jelly beans would look nice, too. — **Jean, via forums**

Sara Noel is the owner of Frugal Village (www.frugalvillage.com), a Web site that offers practical, money-saving strategies for everyday living. To send tips, comments or questions, write to Sara Noel, c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10016, or e-mail sara@frugalvillage.com

www.valleyindependent.com

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FRI. JAN. 4th 8-12
KITCHEN OPEN FREE ADMISSION
For More Info Call 724-554-5151

ALL PAPER BINGO
Lock #4 Vol. Fire Co. and Relief Association
North Charleroi, Pa
Sunday, January 6, 2008
Doors Open at 12:00 p.m. • Games Begin at 2:00 p.m.
FREE DAUBER
• 1/2 Take Quickie • Winner Take All • Handicap Accessible • 5 Specials At $50 Each
20 Games At $25 Guaranteed
12-all Paper Pkg. $25 Includes: Everything Except Winner Take All!!!!
• 12 on for all reg. games
• 12 on for all specials
• 12 on for Super Jackpot!!!!
• Extra Con (Reg. Games, Specials, Jackpot) Only $5
TOTAL JACKPOT $3,400 • 100 EACH FOR X,L,T,H
FULL CARD 3,000
FULL CARD 2,000 MUST GO IF LESS THAN 200 ADMISSIONS
• Door Prizes • Choice Prizes • Plenty Of Seating
For More Info, Reservations, or Directions Call Bill (724) 350-0587 or Jim (724) 489-0950

MONESSEN HILLTOP FIREMAN'S
Friday, January 4th
DJ Steve
Saturday, January 5th
DJ STAN THE MAN
EVERY WEDNESDAY
BAR BINGO

The American Croatian Club
4th St. & Castner Avenue • Donora, PA
724-379-4871
EAT IN or TAKE OUT
4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Menu for Saturday, January 6, 2008
Veal-Stuffed Banana Peppers
Meat Lasagna
Chicken Parmesan
Spaghetti & Meatballs
Cheese & Spinach Lasagna
Grilled Chicken Salad

EASTGATE 19, MONESSEN, PA 15062
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30AM-5:00PM

Valley INDEPENDENT

TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

CLASSIFIED

VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM 724.684.5200 FAX: 724.684.2602

RECRUITMENT
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

MERCHANDISE
4 LINES • 4 DAYS
$14.30
PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

GARAGE SALES
5 LINES • 3 DAYS
$18.65
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

SERVICE DIRECTORY
3 LINES • 30 DAYS
$59.77

AUTOMOTIVE
4 LINES • 26 DAYS
$34.78
PRE-PAY PRIVATE PARTY ONLY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

RUN UNTIL IT SELLS!
4 LINES
PRIVATE PARTY MERCHANDISE ONLY. NO BUSINESSES, AUTOS, BOATS, RV'S, REAL ESTATE, MOBILE HOMES OR APARTMENTS.
ASKING PRICE OF ITEM IS REDUCED EVERY TWO WEEKS BY 5%
$19.45
PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

PRE-PAY WITH VISA

GENERAL INFORMATION: The Tribune-Review Publishing Company reserves the right to edit or reject any advertising copy and determine the correct classification of any advertisement. MISPRINTS: Notice of error should be reported to the Classified Department immediately. The Tribune-Review Publishing Company will not be responsible for more than the cost of that part of an ad rendered valueless by the error. CONFIDENTIALITY: Confidential box numbers – we do not disclose the name of any advertiser using our classified pages. Persons answering File Number ads who wish to protect their identity can do so as follows: Place your reply in an envelope addressed to the File Box at the Valley Independent Classified Department, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062. Include the file number and a list of firms or persons you DO NOT want your reply to reach. If the advertiser is anyone you've listed, we'll destroy your reply. NOTICE: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, familial status or handicaps, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. The paper accepts only recruitment advertising meeting EOE standards. The newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law.

1000/GENERAL

CIRCULATION ASSISTANTS
Opportunities to Join a Winning Team!

The Tribune-Review Publishing Company has open positions for Part-time Circulation Assistants.

Currently an exciting opportunity exists for the right individual. A chance to earn, learn and advance.

- Steady Part-time, approx. 30 hrs./wk.
- Early morning hours
- Delivery & customer service skills necessary
- Work Independently
- Competitive wage & auto allowance

If interested, call Ken Planinsek at
724-850-2826
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

DOWN ROUTE DRIVER

Part-time position, approximately 25 hrs./week. Assist district managers with the delivery of newspapers to subscribers on routes that temporarily have no carrier. Must possess valid PA driver's license and reliable vehicle. Hourly rate plus mileage. Applications available at The Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062 or email your resume to lhutchison@tribweb.com

Look a little closer.

Advertise now.

The Valley INDEPENDENT

Stay ahead of the competition
724-684-5200

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! ONLY IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

1000/GENERAL

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 2008
DONORA CAREER LINKS
570 Galiffa Drive, Donora, PA

Openings exist for the following:

- **Welder** with ability to weld steel plate and read blueprints starting @ $12/hr. Must have formal training and exp. Openings also exist for exp. MIG, TIG & Stick Welders starting @ $13.50 /hr. in union environment. (Washington Areas)
- **Heavy Equipment Operator/Laborer** to operate L90 Volvo Hi Lift/Loader and perform laboring duties working daylight shift. (Mon Valley)
- **Construction Laborer** with previous carpentry, nail gun and staple gun experience to work daylight shift @ Mon Valley location. Must be willing to work 4-10's and overtime when needed.
- **General Laborers** to work production line, fast paced, team environment working afternoon shift. Willing to work $10/hr. shifts.

Gs
1-800-485-6502 M-F
9am-4pm EOE/MF

CLEANING PERSON- general house cleaning. Apply in person, Trombino Music Center, 1049 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon.

EMT/ Security Officers
Monessen, Washington and Jefferson Hills Areas
Full & Part Time
Paid Vacations and Holidays
Hospitalization Available
Uniforms Provided
U.S. Security Associates, Inc.
412-257-5967 ext. 202
www.greatguards.com
AA/EEO

EXPERIENCED AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN or PAINTER
Full-time
Call 724-239-4500

INSTRUCTOR

Laurel Business Institute is seeking a part-time Instructor to teach allied health classes Monday through Friday mornings. RN and teaching experience preferred. Send resume & salary requirements to: csantora@laurel.edu or mail to LBI HR, P.O. Box 877, Uniontown, PA 15401.

MH/MR Support Staff

Laurel Highlands Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization that supports persons with MH/MR developmental disabilities, is currently seeking part-time and full-time support staff to work in our community homes in the West Newton, Turkeytown Rd., New Stanton, and Elizabeth areas. No experience is necessary. Paid training. Must be at least 18 years of age and have valid PA driver's license. Starting rate is $8.63/hour with benefits after 90 days, increase to $8.86/hr. after 6 months. EOE. Call ONLY Mon.-Fri., 9-3pm. 412-825-9141.

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! ONLY IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

1000/GENERAL

FOSTER FAMILIES wanted who will open their hearts and homes to foster children of all ages. Reimbursement, support and training provided. Call 1-800-747-3807.

MOTOR ROUTE DRIVER
Fallowfield Twp.

- Mon.-Sat
- 69 Customers
- No Collections
- 1½ hours daily

724-684-2647

NOTICE TO READERS:

While work-at-home and other informational advertising is often legitimate, we advise readers to fully investigate the background of any company before paying a fee. If an offer sounds "too good to be true", it probably is. Proceed with caution if you are asked to send money or in calling 900 numbers. All phone numbers prefixed by "900" are charged to the caller on a per minute or per call basis. The Valley Independent makes every effort to qualify these charges for the reader. Remember, if you have any doubts, investigate!

REAL ESTATE Career Seminar Schedule

Coldwell Banker Tri County Realty Rostraver Twp. and Washington. Join us for a free informational seminar! Call for reservations! Rostraver 724-929-8866 Washington 724-222-4225

All seminars begin at 10am
Rostraver
January 10
February 16
March 6
April 12
Washington
January 12
February 14
March 8
April 10

SECRETARIAL POSITION

Elizabeth Forward School District-12 month high school position. Applicants should possess strong interpersonal skills and experience commensurate with the following responsibilities, which include, but are not limited to expertise with basic software programs including word processing, spreadsheet, and database management (such as Microsoft Office Suite), knowledge of school district or similar organization operations. Applicants should forward a letter of interest, resume, and three professional references, plus proof of application for the following clearances: Act 34, 114, and 151. This information should be forwarded to Glenn Shell, Director of Human Resources, Elizabeth Forward School District Offices, 401 Rock Run Road, Elizabeth, PA 15037. E.O.E. Deadline: January 10th, 2008.

WAITER/WAITRESS- Apply in person at Campa's Restaurant, 664 McKean Ave., Donora. 724-379-4849.

1025/DRIVERS

COMPANY DRIVER- Greensburg, PA. Local & OTR, competitive package. Repeat runs, CDL-A 1 yr. exp. Excellent safety record. 724-244-9718.

LIFT VAN DRIVERS & Taxi Drivers. Must have clean drivers license. Apply at Tri County Access, 1001 Meldon Ave., Donora.

1040/MEDICAL

REGISTERED NURSE SUPERVISOR

Long-term care facility accepting applications for FT/PT all shifts. Competitive starting wage, insurance benefits, 401K & vacation/holiday package. Convenient location (off Routes 43 & 88). For more information call 724-310-1111. Send resume to:
MON VALLEY CARE CENTER
200 STOOPS DRIVE
MONONGAHELA, PA 15063
OR VISIT US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS
EOE

1040/MEDICAL

AGENCY attendant needed for Belle Vernon area for personal care services. PT, morning hrs., weekdays & weekends. Interested parties should contact 724-439-1434 Mon.-Fri., 8:30am-4:30pm.

CNA Full/Part-time

Mon Valley Care Center accepting CNA applications for daylight, afternoon, and midnight shifts. Competitive salary, insurance benefits, vacation/ holiday package, and 401K.

Join the Valley's most dynamic nursing team

Visit or Send Resumes to:
Mon Valley Care Center
200 Stoops Drive
Monongahela, PA 15063
or fax to
724-310-1195
E.O.E.

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Mon Valley area. Experience necessary. PA X-ray certification required. Competitive salary, vacation. Send resume to Box 876, c/o Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062.

DENTAL ASSISTANT- PT needed for general dentist. Experience preferred. Please call 724-348-7813.

DENTAL ASSISTANT- PT/FT. Experience/ X-Ray certification required. Mail resumes to P.O. Box 762, Belle Vernon, PA 15012.

OFFICE HELP for local physician's office, part-time may lead to full-time. Front & back office experience a plus. Reply to Box 833 c/o The Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062.

SECRETARY/Medical Assistant, full-time, for busy medical office in Belle Vernon. Front & back office exp. 401K. Send resume to P.O. Box 660, Belle Vernon, PA 15012-0660.

1050/SALES

OUTSIDE SALES REPS

Full or Part Time
Flexible Hours
Excellent Income Potential

We are looking for aggressive, results-oriented salespeople to join our team to market Home Delivery of
Tribune-Review Publishing Company
Crew leader, storefront and door-to-door positions are available.
Please call 412-610-6378
9am-5:30pm Monday
8am-3pm Tues. & Wed.
8am-12 Thursday
Closed Friday

1110/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

DONORA ROUTE OPEN
100's McKean and Thompson
17 Papers
Call Melissa at 724-684-2647

MONESSEN
--Routes Open--
1st, 2nd, Reed Ave.
21 Papers
No Collecting
Call 724-684-2648
* * * * * * * *
Forest, Ontario
17 Papers
No Collecting
Call 724-684-2647

MONESSEN CARRIERS WANTED
19 Papers
Monday-Saturday
Eastgate High Rise
Parente Blvd.
No Collections
Call 724-684-2648

1040/MEDICAL

REGISTERED NURSE SUPERVISOR

Long-term care facility accepting applications for FT/PT all shifts. Competitive starting wage, insurance benefits, 401K & vacation/holiday package. Convenient location (off Routes 43 & 88). For more information call 724-310-1111. Send resume to:
MON VALLEY CARE CENTER
200 STOOPS DRIVE
MONONGAHELA, PA 15063
OR VISIT US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS
EOE

1110/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

MONESSEN CARRIER WANTED

1st St. 400's
2nd St. 400's
10's-200's Reed Ave.

21 Customers
No Collections
Call 724-684-2648 or 724-684-2600

MONESSEN ROUTES OPEN

Frye, McGeary, Page St., Scott Ave.
17 Papers
* * * * * * * *
Anna Ave., Moffat, Pride, Ross St.
18 Papers
* * * * * * * *
Washington Dr., Anderson, Hartung, Service Lane
28 Papers
No Collecting

Call Melissa at 724-684-2647

ROUTES AVAILABLE
Tribune Review
✓ California
✓ Bentleyville
✓ Ellsworth Area
Call Jason at 724-272-4437 or Bill at 412-523-2306

2010/ESTATE NOTICES

Tonarelli, Geno
ESTATE NOTICE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of GENO TONARELLI, late of Carroll Township, Washington County, deceased, having been granted by the Register of Wills of Washington County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said Estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them without delay to:

Geraldine Tonarelli, Executrix
423 Graham Street
Belle Vernon, PA 15012

Herman J. Bigi, Esquire
Bigi & Walsh
337 Fallowfield Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022
1/4.11,18

2030/MEETING NOTICES

NOTICE
MACM BOARD
MEETING DATES 2008

The Municipal Authority of the City of Monongahela will hold the regularly scheduled monthly meetings of the Board for the year 2008 on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. prevailing time, at the Authority's office located at 521 West Main Street, Monongahela, PA as follows: January 17, February 21, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, October 16, November 20, December 18.

Michael Stillwagon
Secretary
1/4

NOTICE

The Regular Meetings of the Donora Borough Council in 2008 will be held in the Council Chambers of the Donora Municipal Complex, located at 603 Meldon Avenue, Donora, PA, on the following dates at 6:00 p.m.:

January 10, 2008
February 14, 2008
March 13, 2008
April 10, 2008
May 8, 2008
June 12, 2008
July 10, 2008
August 14, 2008
September 11, 2008
October 9, 2008
November 13, 2008
December 11, 2008

Michael J. Bielen
Borough Administrator/
Secretary
1/4

2030/MEETING NOTICES

PUBLIC MEETING ON
CAL U HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Across the United States, natural and human-caused disasters have led to increasing levels of deaths, injuries, property damage, and interruption of business and government services. The time, money and efforts to recover from these disasters exhaust resources, diverting attention from important public programs and private agendas. With several statewide or county-specific gubernatorial and presidential disaster declarations in recent history, California University of Pennsylvania recognized the impact of disasters on its community and concluded that proactive efforts needed to be taken to reduce the impact of natural and human-caused hazards.

Accordingly, the Cal U Disaster-Resistant University Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (DRU/HMPC) is preparing a Hazard Mitigation Plan. This project will not only guide the university toward greater disaster resistance, but also is part of ongoing efforts to create a more sustainable university community.

In order to qualify for federal aid for technical assistance and post-disaster funding, Cal U must comply with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA) and its implementing regulations (44 CFR §§201.6, published February 26, 2002). Cal U's Hazard Mitigation Plan is being prepared to meet Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirements in order for the university to be eligible for funding and technical assistance from state and federal hazard mitigation programs. Hazard mitigation includes actions taken to prevent or reduce the long-term risks to life and property. The hazard mitigation planning process consists of:

- Public involvement through a series of meetings;
- Identification of hazards that could affect the University;
- Assessment of the University's vulnerability to these hazards in terms of the number of structures and people affected;
- Identification of mitigation actions that can reduce the risk from these hazards; and
- Development of an implementation strategy identifying roles and responsibilities.

National surveys have revealed that for many parents of college-bound students, safety was their number one concern, and Cal U's commitment to safety and hazard prevention pre-dated these findings.

The opening statement in the university's adopted and approved Bill of Rights and Responsibilities states, "We have the right to safety and security. We have the responsibility to ensure the safety and security of others". Based on this commitment to safety, Cal U is the only university nationwide that completely replaced all of its on-campus residence halls. This commitment to safety has helped the university's enrollment increase for nine consecutive years. Cal U was recently featured in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's (PASSHE) 2006-2007 Green Report as an exemplary program for energy management. The preparing of the Hazard Mitigation Plan will help Cal U continue and enhance its safety measures according to Sharon Elkettani, Director of Cal U's Department of Environmental Health and Safety.

"This is a win-win endeavor for California University and all of our sister schools in the state system that are all participating in this plan", said Elkettani, who is the chairwoman of Cal U's Disaster-Resistant University Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee. "Obviously safety and disaster-resistance are extremely important matters, and this plan will also benefit our friends of California Borough, as well as the university community".

Cal U's consultant, URS Corporation, will deliver a presentation on the University's hazard mitigation planning process on JANUARY 22, 2008 at 2pm in the Natali Student Center. The public is welcome to attend the meeting to learn more about and participate in the hazard mitigation planning process.

Anyone who wishes to participate in the plan development or wants more information should contact Elkettani at 724-938-4411 or e-mail at elkettani@cup.edu

1/4

2030/MEETING NOTICES

NOTICE
PUBLIC MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an extra meeting of the Carroll Township Authority will be held on Wednesday, January 9, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. at the Carroll Township Municipal Building, 130 Baird Street, Monongahela, Washington County, Pennsylvania.

The meeting is for special purposes.

M. Richard Kuppelweiser
Secretary
1/4

NOTICE

The Regular Meetings of the Donora Borough Parks and Recreation Board in 2008 will be held in the Council Chambers of the Donora Municipal Complex, located at 603 Meldon Avenue, Donora, PA, on the following dates at 7:00 p.m.:

January 8, 2008
February 5, 2008
March 4, 2008
April 1, 2008
May 6, 2008
June 3, 2008
July 1, 2008
August 5, 2008
September 2, 2008
October 7, 2008
November 4, 2008
December 2, 2008

Michael J. Bielen
Borough Administrator/
Secretary
1/4

NOTICE

The Work Session Meetings of the Donora Borough Council in 2008 will be held in the Council Conference Room of the Donora Municipal Complex, located at 603 Meldon Avenue, Donora, PA on the following dates at 6:00 p.m.:

January 7, 2008
February 7, 2008
March 6, 2008
April 3, 2008
May 1, 2008
June 5, 2008
July 3, 2008
August 7, 2008
September 4, 2008
October 2, 2008
November 6, 2008
December 4, 2008

Michael J. Bielen
Borough Administrator/
Secretary
1/4

2030/MEETING NOTICES

NOTICE

The Reorganization Meeting of the Donora Borough Council will be held on Monday, January 7, 2008 at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Conference Room of the Donora Municipal Complex, located at 603 Meldon Avenue, Donora, Pennsylvania.

Michael J. Bielen
Borough Administrator/
Secretary
1/4

4000/ADOPTION

ADOPT

Family focused devoted married couple longs to adopt your newborn. We promise to provide a loving, warm, financially secure home. Expenses paid. Please Call Christina & Bill at.
1-888-290-9050

ADOPTION

Adoption is a courageous decision for you. We promise a life of love, safety, security to your precious newborn. Exp. pd. Laurie & Martin 1-866-202-4737 X 1025

4010/CEMETERY LOTS

4 PLOTS at Mon Valley Memorial Park, Garden of Devotion. $2,330. Call 724-929-5911

4070/LOST & FOUND

FIND SOMETHING?
LOSE SOMETHING?
Place your lost & found ad FREE. Runs 4 days at no charge. Call 724-684-5200.

LOST money clip with money, vicinity of Shop 'N Save, Rostraver. Reward. Call 724-930-7970.

4100/PERSONALS

$195 DIVORCE COMPLETE
No-Fault Uncontested
Reisman & Davis, Pgh.
No Court Appearance or Travel To Office
Free Information
1-800-486-4070 24Hrs

LOOKING FOR A NEW RIDE? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

2020/BID NOTICES

INVITATION TO BID

SEALED BIDS for the Construction of the Panhandle Trail, Phase II in Smith Township, Burgettstown and Midway Boroughs, Washington County, Pennsylvania will be received at the Office of the County Controller, 100 West Beau Street, Suite 403, Washington, Pennsylvania 15301, until 11:00 A.M. prevailing time, January 30, 2008, and immediately thereafter will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Purchasing Office, Suite 402, Courthouse Square Office Building, 100 West Beau Street, Washington, PA 15301. Late bids will not be accepted.

The work of this project consists of the construction of 2.4 miles of a gravel surfaced hiking and biking trail including but not limited to the following:

- Maintenance and protection of traffic
- Erosion and sediment pollution control measures
- Construction of trail access parking lot
- Construction of trail surface including grading and drainage structures
- Signing and pavement markings
- Seeding and mulching of all disturbed areas not receiving other surface treatments
- Drainage improvements
- Site restoration work
- Bituminous overlay of existing parking lot and construction of bituminous walk

A non-mandatory Pre-Bid meeting will be held with the Washington County Planning Commission personnel and all prospective bidders and other interested parties to discuss the project. The meeting will be held on January 17, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the Office of the Washington County Planning Commission, 100 West Beau Street, Suite 701, Washington, PA.

Copies of the Contract Documents and Drawings may be reviewed at the Washington County Purchasing Office, 100 West Beau Street, Suite 402, Washington, PA 15301. Contract Documents and Drawings may be purchased for a non-refundable fee of $150.00 made payable to the Washington County Commissioners. Bid packages will be mailed for an additional non-refundable fee of $20.00. Bidders may fax their written request to the Washington County Purchasing Office at 724-250-6555.

Bid Security - Proposal must be accompanied by certified check, cashier's check, bank good faith check, other irrevocable letter of credit or bid bond in the amount of 10% of the total amount of bid and made payable to the order of the Washington County Commissioners. Only the Bid Securities listed above will be accepted.

Prequalification of Bidders of bidders, as specified in Section 102.01 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Specification Publication No. 408/2007-1, effective October 1, 2007 is required on this project.

Bonds - The bidder awarded this contract will be required to furnish Performance and Labor and Material Payment Bonds in the amount of 100% of the bid amount.

Insurance - The bidder awarded this contract will be required to furnish proof of Workmen's Compensation Insurance, Automobile Liability Insurance and General Liability Insurance and other insurance in the amounts stipulated in the Contract Documents.

Wage Rates - Davis-Bacon Federal Wage Rates apply to this project.

Time for Completion - The work of this Project will be completed 100 calendar days after the date of the Notice to Proceed.

The Washington County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any or all bid proposals.

WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

LARRY MAGGI & J. BRACKEN BURNS, SR.,
CO-CHAIRMEN
DIANA L. IREY

ATTEST

MARY HELICKE
CHIEF CLERK
1/4.11

4100/PERSONALS

ALONE & PREGNANT?
A Confidential Caring Friend
Free Pregnancy Test
LIFELINE OF S.W. PA
Call Hotline 24 Hrs.
724-489-9020

5000/APPAREL & JEWELRY

HARLEY DAVIDSON leather & wool jacket XL, excellent condition. $143.00 724-872-0151.

WOMEN'S CLOTHES- plus size, size 18-22. $15 for the bag. Call 724-797-2453.

5010/APPLIANCES

MICROWAVE Roper under the cabinet, black, like new. $63.00 724-684-4596.

WOOD BURNING Fireplace free standing, w/7" black flue pipe & damper. 724-379-6153.

5020/ARTICLES

3' CHRISTMAS TREE- new unopened. $2.00. Call 724-483-2187.

LAMP- 1950's bark cloth shade, $35. Call 724-483-2187.

POLLY POCKETS- 130+ set. $20 or best offer. Call 724-797-2453.

5060/COMPUTERS

DELL Dimension, 17" monitor, keyboard, mouse, speakers. $309. 724-344-7069.

5070/ELECTRONICS

52" TV- RCA. Good working condition. Asking $500. Call 724-483-0156.

STEREO- 1960's wood cabinet, Magnavox. $20. Call 724-483-2187.

5130/FURNITURE

COUCH- very good condition. $50. Call 724-797-2453.

5150/HOME HEALTH CARE

LIFT CHAIR- 3 years old, hunter green, excellent. Paid $600, sell $335. 724-929-4963.

LIFT CHAIR- motorized, nutmeg color. Was $660, asking $200. Call 724-258-7541.

5195/SPORTING GOODS

GOLF CLUBS. Power Built new, never used w/bag, $313.00 724-483-6724, 412-551-4848.

SKI BOOTS- size 11 Salomon men's. $10. Call 724-379-5104.

5220/WANTED TO BUY

$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$
$CASH FOR$
Broken or Unwanted Gold or Platinum
Chains, Bracelets, Rings, Etc.
Gold & Silver Coins
Diamonds & Estate Jewelry
Highest Prices Paid
THE JEWELTIQUE
724-225-1455

$ $ $ $
Collector
BUYING GOLD & SILVER COINS JEWELRY & DENTAL GOLD PLATINUM & LIONEL TRAINS
Highest Prices Paid
-- WILL TRAVEL --
724-258-4189
$ $ $ $

5600/LOST & FOUND

LOST- toy poodle, female, cream & brown, "Tootsie" 2nd & Woodland, Charleroi. 724-565-5192. Reward.

6030/TRUCKS

1990 FORD F250HD 4x4 V8, 5 speed manual. Good shape. $2,500. Call 724-326-4782.

6050/PARTS & ACCESSORIES

USED AUTO PARTS
At Affordable Prices
C&M AUTO RECYCLING
MONONGAHELA
724-258-3553

6080/AUTOS FOR SALE

" Happy New Year! "
Pre-Owned Advantage
Save Thousands Over New!
TREGEMBO FORD
Exit 32B, I70
Bentleyville
724-239-2200
www.tregemboford.com

2003 FORD Escort ZX2, auto, 36K miles, alloys, spoiler. Great MPG. SHARP!
2001 FORD Mustang GT 5 speed, 30K miles, Super Clean. DARK RED BEAUTY!
2002 FORD Taurus SE, silver, 46K miles, power windows & locks, alloys. GOOD MPG!
2002 FORD Taurus SEL, leather, roof, good miles. Good MPG. CLEAN!
2003 CHEVY Silverado Z71, 1500, Ext. Cab, 4x4, 50K miles. NONE CLEANER!
2003 FORD Taurus SE Sedan, 36K miles, cloth, power windows, locks. GOOD MPG!
1998 GMC Jimmy Premier Edition, 4x4, 4 dr. Good Miles! SAVE!
2003 FORD Explorer XLT, 3rd row seat, 4x4, 40K miles, dark green. SAVE SUV!
2007 LINCOLN Town Car, Signature, totally loaded. Now Reduced! SAVE!!!
2005 LINCOLN LS, V6, 24K miles, very clean. GOOD GAS MILEAGE!
2004 FORD F-150 Super Cab, XLT, 2WD, 38K miles, black. SUPER SHARP TRUCK!
2004 FORD Explorer Eddie Bauer, 27K miles, white, 4x4. LEATHER!
2005 FORD Five Hundred SEL, full power, 30K miles. NOW REDUCED!
2005 FORD Taurus SE, tan leather, moon roof, pretty maroon. GOOD MPG & SAFE!
2005 CHEVY Aveo, 4 cyl, auto, LT, power windows & locks. GAS SAVER!!
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3 bedroom, 2 ½ bath brick ranch. Master with full bath, 2 car garage. Move in condition. $134,900.

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142 BLUE TOP RD- country living! Double wide on 1.35 acres. 2 car carport & out building which can be used as additional 2 car garage/storage. Spacious kitchen w/sliding glass doors leading to covered deck. Alt & Jody Moebius.

ROSTRAVER

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CHARLEROI- Fully rented duplex. 3 bedrooms and 1 ½ baths on each side, also full basement on each side. $70,000.

FALLOWFIELD TWP- Call to see this charming 3 bedroom with large yard and covered front porch. A must see. $129,900.

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3540/APTS-RENT/FAYETTE

BELLE VERNON- full bath, kitchen, living area, 1 bedroom, parking. $220+ utilities, security deposit. No pets. References. 724-929-5544.

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PERRYOPOLIS- nice 2 bedroom. Affordable rent. Call Great Dane Realty 724-684-9600.

3555/APTS-RENT/WASHINGTON

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3560/APT-RENT/WMLD.

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BELLE VERNON- 2 bedroom, small kitchen, bath, living room, porch, 2 car garage. $350+ utilities. 724-823-0750.

VAN METER- 4 rooms & bath, utilities included. $800/mo. Security required. 724-872-7805.

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3605/HSE-RENT/FAYETTE

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BROWNSTOWN- ½ duplex, 1 bedroom. $300 + $300 deposit. Utilities not included. 724-469-2122.

3620/HSE-RENT/WASHINGTON

DONORA- Spragg St. very clean, remodeled 2 bedroom. Basement. No pets. $400+ utilities. 724-875-4008.

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FINLEYVILLE- 2 story, 3 bedrooms, 1 ½ bath. $525+ utilities, security, references, no pets. 724-348-6969.

MONONGAHELA- near 5th & 4th & Rt. 43. 3 bedroom ranch. $600+ utilities & security deposit. Available 2/1/08. 724-554-1375.

3625/HSE-RENT/WMLD.

MONESSEN- 2 bedroom house. $400 month + utilities. No pets. Call 724-736-2771.

MONESSEN- 2 bedroom, yard, newly remodeled, appliances included, garage. 420 Forest Section 8 accepted. 724-489-4131.

MONESSEN- 3 bedroom w/w carpet. $420 per month plus. Call 724-872-2775.

MONESSEN- 2/3 bedroom house, living, dining, kitchen, small yard, central heat/air. $600+ utilities. Section 8 ok. 724-929-3230.

N. BELLE VERNON- private rental house, kitchen, living room, 1 bedroom, basement. 1035 Broad Ave. Call 724-929-8749.

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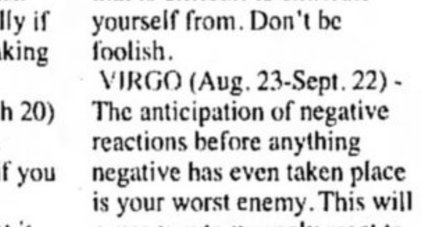
4100/PERSONALS

ASTRO ❖ GRAPH

Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

SATURDAY, JAN. 5, 2008



The chickens will come home to roost in the year ahead. You will be rewarded for your accomplishments as well as your aspirations. Clean up all loose ends before any fingers of blame can be pointed at you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Don't get upset about a situation that has yet to occur. Don't allow apprehensive thinking that you've based on unfounded premises get you all shook up.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- When out shopping, if you run into a salesperson whose pitch sounds too good to be true, it is. Don't rush into a purchase, especially if the aforementioned is taking place.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- It is very easy to look around for a scapegoat if you fail to achieve your designated objective, but it isn't wise. Your fall guy/gal is likely to prove that is you who failed.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- If you see yourself as not being able to measure up to competition, you'll prove yourself right. Jumping to negative conclusions before you even tried is futile.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Being wishy-washy about your funds is akin to asking someone to come along and take advantage of you. Don't let a person who sees your weakness put a hit on you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- It's great to want to accomplish many things, but you need to guard against establishing too many objectives, which makes the completion of any of them impossible. Start only what you can finish.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- "To thine own self be true." But also be loyal to the person who is expecting sincerity from you. Don't hesitate to say what needs to be said, simply because it isn't very interesting.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- If you have a wandering, romantic eye, you will end up lacking good judgment and will get trapped in a situation that is difficult to extricate yourself from. Don't be foolish.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - The anticipation of negative reactions before anything negative has even taken place is your worst enemy. This will cause you to wrongly react to situations that you have erroneously judged.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- If flights of fancy become a creative exercise for your fertile imagination, you'll set yourself up for failure. It's OK to be wishful, if your thoughts are based upon practical considerations.

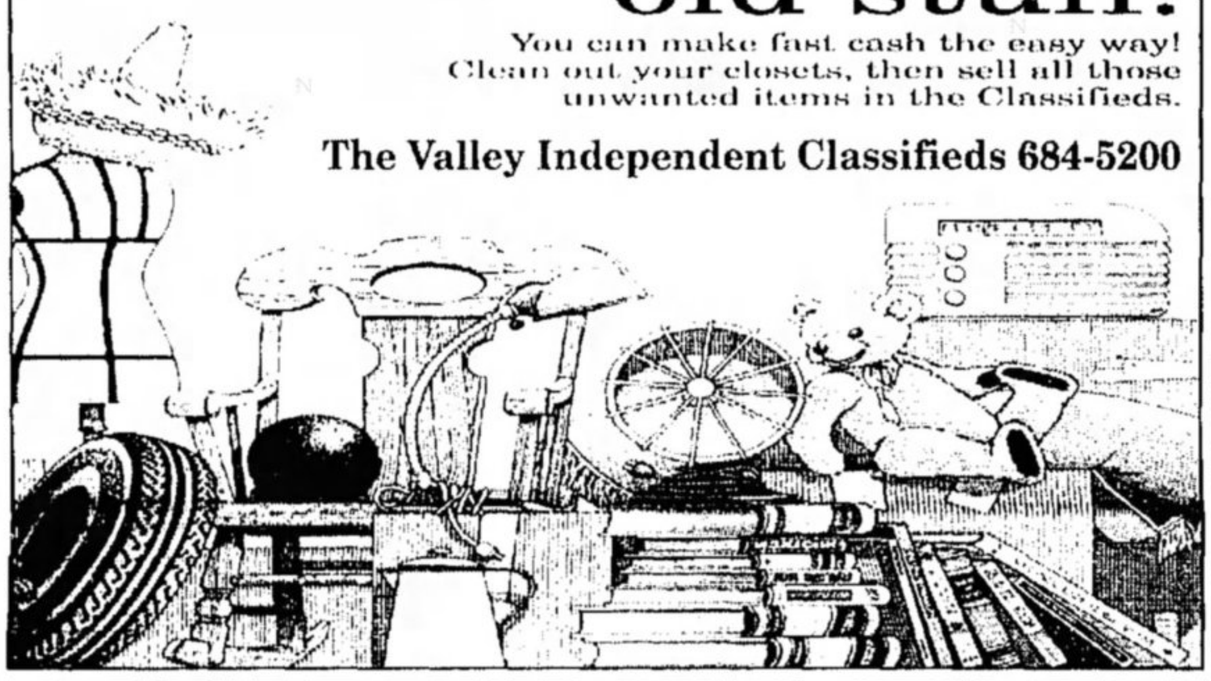
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Don't take anything for granted, especially concerning your financial affairs, because there is too strong of a chance you would be wrong. Make sure everything is defined and put in writing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Because you're a frank and open person, you're pretty up front about where you stand with others. But you get in trouble when you try to please everyone.

Sell your old stuff.

You can make fast cash the easy way! Clean out your closets, then sell all those unwanted items in the Classifieds.

The Valley Independent Classifieds 684-5200



4100/PERSONALS

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on the job performing your service, as shown above. You can mail photos to The Valley Independent Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa 15062 or email to lmajor@tribweb.com (please include your name & business)